

gateway

2008



**WELCOME
BACK**





Student Health Services

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PAGE 18-A

gateway

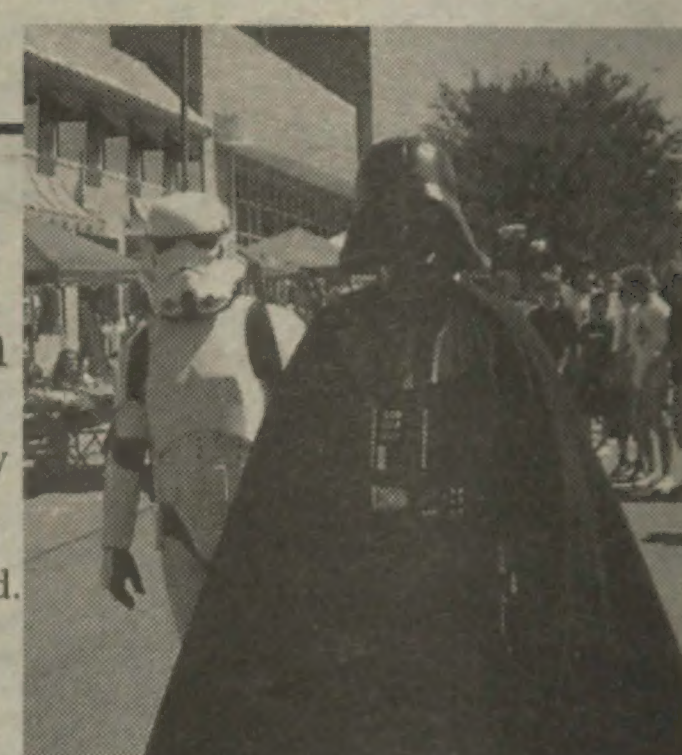
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA

SINCE 1913

Dundee Day brings parade, festival to town

The annual Dundee Day celebration took place near campus last weekend.

PAGE 14-B



VOLUME 08 | ISSUE 01

TUESDAY | AUGUST 26, 2008

Campus academics offer different views on Russian conflict

Staff Writer Liz E. Rogerts is senior international studies major. She spent four months studying Russian at St. Petersburg State University in 2007, where she also conducted research on Russian diplomacy.

Over the past few weeks, Russian military incursions into the independent nation of Georgia have raised far-reaching concerns about Russian foreign policy.

I recently spoke with Thomas Gouttierre, dean of International Studies and Programs, and Meredith Bacon, a professor of political science, in their respective Arts and Sciences Hall offices at UNO on the topic of this crisis. Their views left me with a sense that the issues, which spawned these violent events, have been brewing for some time.

According to Bacon, Georgia's steady steps closer to the West have been heightening tensions in the region. Georgian President Mikhail Sakaashvili was educated in the U.S., which may explain his pro-Western stance. Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has lately been trying, despite European blockage, to begin steps towards entry into NATO as well.

In the sense adopted by Russian diplomatic rhetoric, however, the recent hostilities were tipped off by Georgian attacks on an enclave of Russian forces in its own precarious region of South Ossetia.

The degree to which this was goaded by Russians in the area is unclear. Russian troops, however, were quick to move in, bringing with them military arms and presumably an order from President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin to push past the disputed zones of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, into Georgia proper.

As Bacon sees it, President Sakaashvili of Georgia made "a terrible judgment and error [in South Ossetia] but that the Russian response was not proportional." She also asserted that the Russians must have long been preparing for such a Georgian tip-off of hostilities because they were immediately ready to send large numbers of personnel and arms into the region.

In Gouttierre's opinion, the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the subsequent gerrymandering that went on during the conception of post-soviet borders, have created an environment ripe for crisis.

"You've got to remember that in almost every one of

SEE **RUSSIA** - PAGE 12-A



Russian soldiers leave the port of Poti, Georgia, which they briefly occupied on Aug. 19. At the back of the vehicle are two men wearing white blindfolds, who are believed to be among about 20 Georgian soldiers whom the Russians captured in the raid. (Shashank Bengali/MCT)

See pgs. 12-A & 13-A for more on the Russian / Georgian conflict.

UNO tops nation in adding value

MARK PATEL
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

UNO was ranked first in the nation in students' intellectual growth between their freshman and senior years by the Collegiate Learning Assessment, placing UNO ahead of many prestigious universities such as Duke University, the University of Texas and the University of North Carolina.

"The CLA purports to measure value-added at an institution, and for this test, for this measure, for this year, we finished at the top of the list," said Steven Bullock, interim assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs.

The online exam was administered by UNO officials to a randomly selected group of 225 freshmen and 100 seniors over the course of last year.

Student performance on the exam when they came to UNO was at the 9th percentile, Bullock said. By the time they left, it was at the 86th percentile — the highest growth of any university.

"I think it presents us in a very positive light and justifiably so," Bullock said. "Our faculty are truly outstanding when it comes to teaching, and we take teaching very seriously, we take pride in our teaching, and this is a testament to that."

Academic help services around campus ensure that students realize their full potential.

"The Writing Center, the Speech Center, the Math-Science Learning Center — they're addressing the needs of hundreds of students and they seem to be doing so very effectively," Bullock said. "So I think that's a big part of it."

This is the first time UNO participated in the test conceived by the Council for Aid to Education, a privately funded organization whose benefactors include Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Ford Foundation.

Each student is assigned an "expected" CLA score based on their ACT score.

"Our freshman did not do as well as their ACT might indicate on the CLA," Bullock said.

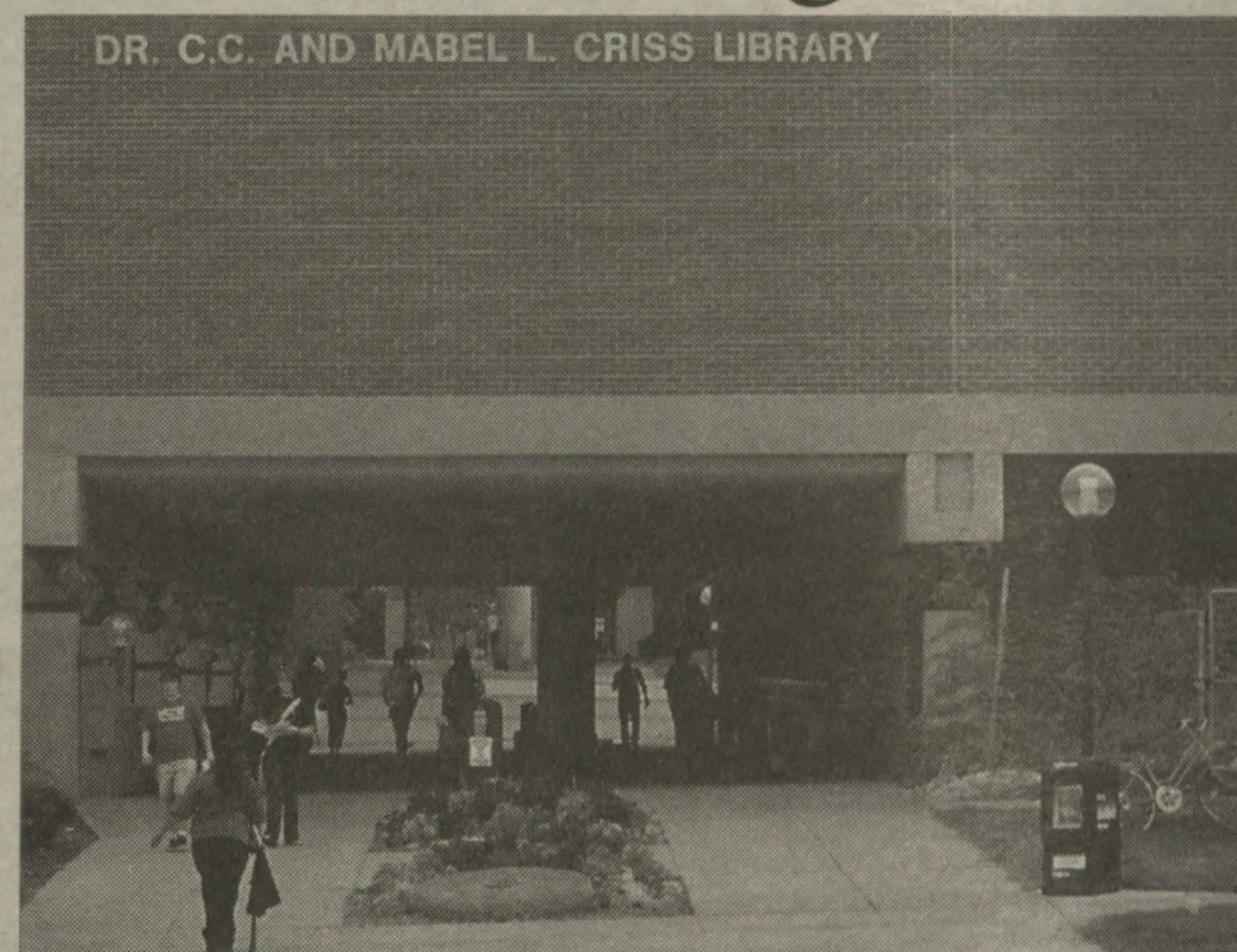
On the other hand, the seniors over-performed compared to their ACT.

The CAE sends the grades for each section and subsection of the exam to the university to help identify students' academic needs.

"They really encourage institutions to use them primarily for internal purpose; we just see this as an additional tool in looking at how our students are doing," Bullock said.

Providing a basis for inter-institutional comparison is listed under "benefits and uses of CLA" on the CAE Web site, cae.org.

It is controversial to use student learning to compare schools because it is hard to measure, and upper-tier colleges like Duke are at a disadvantage because their students "have less room for growth," added Bullock.



Andrea Barbe/The Gateway

UNO received some criticism for exaggerating the significance of the results.

"We fully expect a college that happens to score very well to boast about it," said Richard Ekman, president of the Council of Independent Colleges, in an e-mail message to "Inside Higher Education."

"That's what UNO is doing, and I don't fault the university for playing up a distinctive characteristic," Ekman wrote. "UNO may be pushing it a little far — to imply that if you enroll there, you're guaranteed to learn more than at ABC University — but that's the admissions game these days."

Bullock, however, said the exam does provide a lot of credibility to UNO's message.

"The fact that this is a nationally recognized exam: it has a lot of validity," Bullock said. "Lots of statisticians have taken a look at this and they've determined that this is a really good test. It's not flawless, obviously, as is the case with any standardized exam."

The ACT measures the academic caliber of incoming students, but until the CLA was used there was nothing to measure the learning gains made by seniors throughout their undergraduate careers.

"Studies that measure the value added of college are the gold standard of higher education assessment," Ernest Pascarella, a professor of higher education at the University of Iowa, said on the CLA Web site.

The CLA is an all essay test because "life is not life a multiple choice test, with four or five simple choices for every problem," according to the Web site.

The exam is designed to measure critical thinking skills in a non-discipline specific way. Test-takers face complex, ambiguous problems that require analytical thinking and the ability to bring together information from multiple sources.

New day shelter part of broader campus

MARK PATEL
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

A new day shelter for homeless individuals is planned by the city at the corner of 17th and Nicholas streets near the Sienna-Francis House homeless shelter in the north downtown area.

The land is currently occupied by an industrial building, which the city is purchasing to convert into a place where the homeless can go during the day.

A day shelter is needed "to actually have some hands on with homeless people in order to figure out what they need to get out this really confusing world of homelessness," said Tim Sully, development director of Sienna-Francis House.

Emergency shelters like the Sienna-Francis House provide basic services like dinner and a place to sleep. A shelter during the daylight hours is required to administer additional services such as job training, health clinics and to look for affordable housing.

The day shelter will serve as a temporary solution until the broader vision of a campus community for the homeless is realized.

The campus will cover a few blocks around the Sienna-Francis House and will feature an "empowerment" center similar to a day shelter, a block of supportive housing and addiction recovery services.

Landscaping will serve to buffer the community from adjacent residential and industrial areas.

"The idea of a campus is it protects the homeless individual who needs help, at the same time it also protects the neighborhood from spillover into the surrounding neighborhood," said James Thele, assistant city planning director.

The public's attention regarding the homeless problem was captured by crowds of up to 150 homeless individuals gathering in the Gene Leahy Mall during the lunch hour to receive sacked lunches from various churches.

"Certainly the homeless are present in the downtown library as well," Thele said. "Part of it is they're looking for something to do during the day; some of that, I hope, the day shelter would provide them other opportunities."

Thele did note, however, that the city would not prevent their use of public property.

SEE **HOMELESS** - PAGE 19-A

Campus Security

Eppley Administration Building, Rm 100

Help Us to Help You!

Security

- Buildings are patrolled 24 hours daily.

Personal Safety Checks

- Individuals who may be working alone outside normal hours are encouraged to contact Campus Security. Security officers will periodically check on your safety while you are here.

Extras

- Campus Security provides assistance to motorists 24 hours daily, to jump-start your vehicle, open a locked vehicle and change a tire in certain situations. For vehicles on campus only.

Emergency Messages

- Should your family or friends need to have an emergency message delivered while you are in class or on campus, have them contact Campus Security. Emergency messages will be delivered in case of a medical emergency or a matter of life or death.

Personal Escorts

- The escort service is available 24-7 for individuals on campus. Contact Campus Security to arrange for an escort.

Emergency Procedures

- The University emergency number is 554-2911.
- There are telephones on campus that can be used to report an emergency.

Suspicious Person or Crimes in Progress

- Should you witness a crime in progress, or other emergency, use the campus emergency number 4-2911.

Personal Threats and Harassment

- Disruptive behavior on campus will not be tolerated. Threats or acts of violence should be reported to Campus Security. If the act appears to represent an immediate threat or harm to an individual, it should be reported at once to Campus Security or 911.

Evacuations

- Faculty and staff should assist with room and building evacuations, and be aware of those needing special assistance. All students should become familiar with the designated rally points for their buildings, which are listed on the Campus Security website www.unomaha.edu/security under "Emergency Procedures."

Alert System

- A system to help facilitate emergency communications has been installed at the Center, Dodge and Pacific locations. Announcements are distributed from Campus Security to building public address systems or speakers located in building corridors. When announcements are made, strobe lights will flash to notify the hearing impaired to seek assistance.
- The system will be particularly helpful during tornado warnings. The announcement will alert building occupants to seek shelter and again later when the warning has ended. The alert system also can be used to announce University closings, confirm evacuations for fire or chemical release or other emergency conditions.
- More information on campus emergency procedures can be found on the Campus Security website.

Parking & Traffic

- Shuttle service is provided from the Pacific location lots 5, 7 and 9 – permit required.
- Remote parking is provided from the Crossroads Mall Parking Structure at 72 and Cass Streets – no permit required.
- Contact Campus Security for a shuttle schedule and remote parking locations.

Lost and Found

- Campus Security maintains the lost and found system. Contact Campus Security for lost items.

Fingerprints

- The Campus Security Department provides a fingerprinting service for individuals who require fingerprints for local, state and federal positions and for children of students, staff, faculty and alumni.

Blue light Emergency Phones

- Blue Light Emergency Phones are located throughout campus. Use the phones to report emergencies or contact Campus Security for assistance.

Operation I.D.

- Your stereo tape deck, calculator or other personal belongings may be engraved to aid in finding lost or stolen property.
- Stop by the Campus Security Office and check out an engraver and instructions to engrave your property.

Medical Emergency/Personal Injury

- Call 4-2911 to report a medical emergency or a personal injury. Campus Security officers will respond and render assistance.
- Campus Security officers are trained to provide basic first aid, CPR and the use of an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator).

Personal Property

- The University is not responsible for personal property. Individuals are responsible for safeguarding their own property. Loss of personal property should be reported to Campus Security.

Theft or Damaged Property

- Should you have items stolen or damaged, report the incident as soon as possible to Campus Security.

Incident Reporting

- Incidents requiring immediate action include: fire, environmental spills, medical conditions, property damage, disruptive behavior and crimes in progress.
- Persons involved with or observing these types of incidents should call Campus Security at 554-2911. Campus Security will dispatch officers to the scene, and if required, contact 911.
- If you call 911 directly, also notify Campus Security to help coordinate the response and expedite travel to the emergency scene. Emergency information provided by the caller should include: building, floor, room number, call back number and nature of the emergency.

554-2648

www.unomaha.edu/security

gateway

EST. 1913
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA
AT OMAHA

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Final summer meeting nixed by Student Senate

SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

After failing to make the necessary number of senators to conduct business last month, Student Senate decided to cancel its final summer session meeting scheduled for last week.

Speaker Dayton Headlee sent out an e-mail to all the senators, a copy of which was provided to The Gateway. In the e-mail, Headlee said it became clear quorum would not be met again so the meeting was being cancelled in advance.

Student Senate will resume its regular legislative session on Aug. 28 with committee meetings. The first regular meeting is scheduled for Sept. 4 at 7 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center.

Cancer Center given grant for youth cancer research

SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The University of Nebraska Medical Center's Eppley Cancer Center received \$155,000 in support of pediatric cancer research from the Burger King Beat Cancer for Kids campaign this summer.

The month-long campaign in July took place in more than 70 Burger King restaurants throughout the Omaha and Des Moines metropolitan areas. It was organized by Simmonds Restaurant Management, which went under ownership by Burger King Corp. during the campaign.

Customers were asked to donate \$1 for each scratch ticket containing a free Burger King food item and a chance



Pascal Sakhel (right) senior director of operations for Burger King Corporation, presents a symbolic check to Ken Cowan, M.D., Ph.D., director of the UNMC Eppley Cancer Center. (courtesy UNMC Public Affairs)

to win a 2008 Mazda CX7 valued at \$24,000.

The CX7 was donated by Woodhouse Auto Family. Kevin Kennedy, 22, of Omaha, won the car.

"I never thought I'd win," Kennedy said in a statement. "I was shaking when they announced that I'd won. I cannot believe it."

The BK Beat Cancer for Kids campaign has raised more than \$695,000 to benefit pediatric cancer research nationally. Last year, money was earmarked for research on the brain, soft tissue and connective tissue tumors.

"This is a wonderful partnership," Kenneth Cowan, director of the Eppley Cancer Center, said in a statement. "By supporting the 'Beat Cancer for Kids' campaign over the last five years, the generous people of Omaha and surrounding communities have helped raise over half a million dollars for research in childhood cancers at UNMC."

U.S. Senate holds hearing on food, fuel, feed in Strauss auditorium

SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Last week, Sens. Ben Nelson, D-Neb., and Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, visited the University of Nebraska at Omaha to conduct a Senate Field Hearing focused on food, fuel and livestock feed production.

Nelson said he was pleased Omaha was chosen to host the hearing, since it sits at the center of the debate over ethanol biofuels and the need for food and feed production. The Strauss Performing Arts Center hosted the hearing, which began at 9 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 18.

Nine witnesses from the greater Omaha area were scheduled to testify before the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, which Nelson sits on and Harkin chairs. Witnesses were experts in agriculture, economics, food production, livestock production and renewable energy.

Included among the witnesses were Tim Recker, president of the Iowa Corn Growers Association, and Bruce Babcock, director of Iowa State University's Center for Agricultural and Rural Development.

Nelson, a vocal supporter of corn-based ethanol, said the hearing's focus was on addressing criticism of ethanol and viewing all sides of the issue.

"The focus here should be on the big picture: ethanol is the only domestically produced alternative to oil-based transportation fuels," Nelson said in prepared remarks.

"We want to see all of agriculture survive and prosper, including grain farmers, livestock producers, ethanol producers and food processors, while benefiting the average American family, our local communities, our national energy security and the national economy. This is money wisely invested in the American Midwest and not in the Middle East."

Med Center hosts a free clinic at Fair

SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The University of Nebraska Medical Center is sponsoring free health screenings at the Nebraska State Fair.

The screenings, conducted through the UNMC College of Nursing's Mobile Nursing Center, will be in the Bob Devaney Sports Center from Aug. 22 to Sept. 1. The hours are 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends.

There will also be special hours Friday, Aug. 22, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 29, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Monday, Sept. 1, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

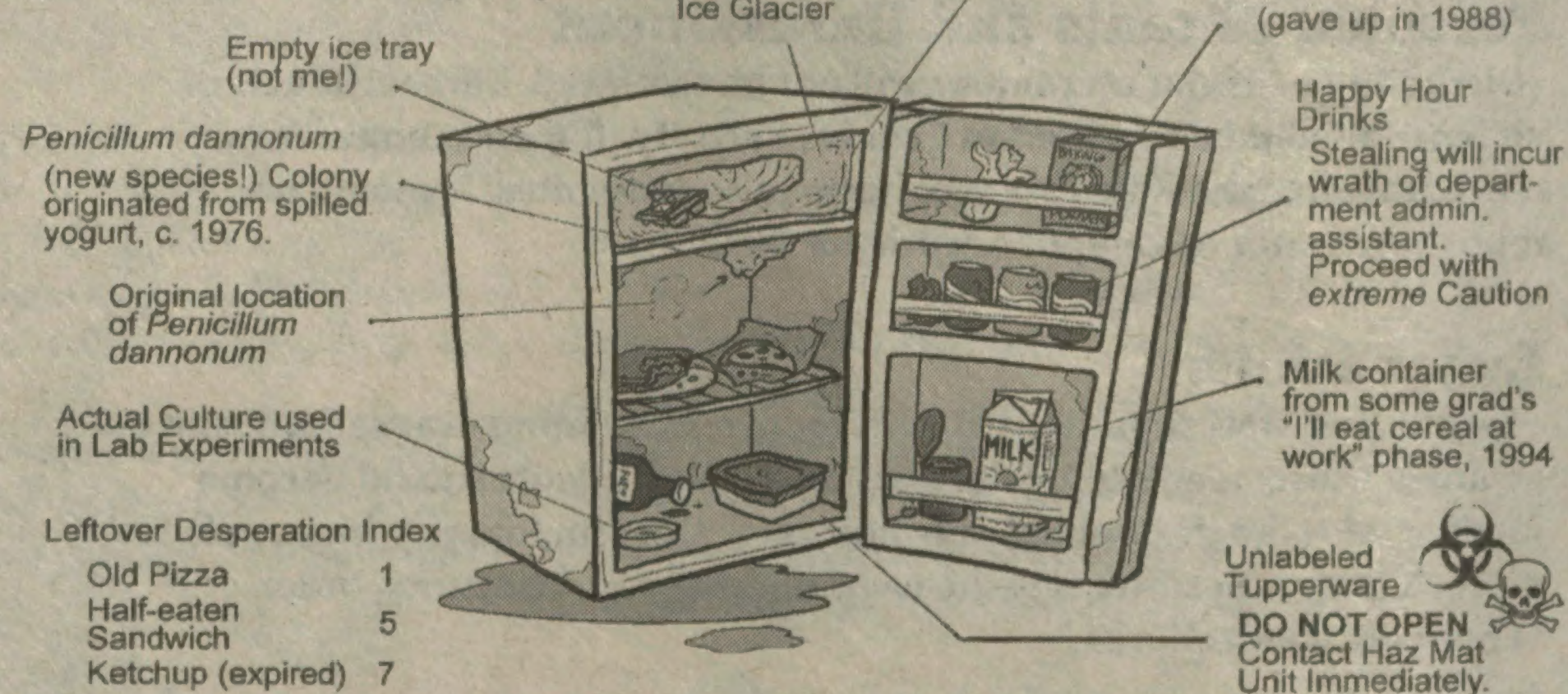
Assessments for facial sun damage, blood pressure, height, weight and body mass index will be available every day, as will take-home kits for colon cancer. Other tests will only be available certain days.

Prostate cancer screenings and total cholesterol tests will be available on Aug. 23, Aug. 24, Aug. 29, Aug. 30 and Aug. 31. Oral cancer checks will be available on Aug. 23 and Aug. 24. Glucose tests can be performed on Aug. 22, Aug. 25, Aug. 28 and Sept. 1.

Anyone with abnormal test results will be contacted by UNMC. Educational material about reducing the risk of cancer will also be available.

The screenings are provided by UNMC's Eppley Cancer Center and are funded by a grant from Prevent Cancer Foundation, which has provided more than \$97 million in support of cancer prevention research, education and outreach. The foundation also supports screenings at the Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio and South Dakota state fairs.

A biological tour of The Lab/Office Fridge And Its Contents of Mystery!



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM JORGE CHAM © 2007

Crime Log

COMPILED BY
SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Friday, Aug. 15

12:40 p.m. A student reported the theft of unsecured personal property from the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building. The incident occurred between 11:30 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 18

9:30 a.m. A visitor reported the theft of personal property from Criss Library. The incident occurred between 3:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 15, and 8 a.m., Monday, Aug. 18.

3:30 p.m. A visitor reported the theft of personal property from the HPER Building. The

incident occurred between 6 p.m., Saturday, July 26, and 8 a.m., Friday, Aug. 8.

Wednesday, Aug. 20

8:48 p.m. A staff member reported the theft of personal property from an unsecured office in Durham Science Center. The incident occurred between 12 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

For the Record

In the Aug. 12 profile Washburn University for the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association spread, the men's and women's tennis teams were incorrectly identified as track teams.

Washburn does not participate in track and field, but the Topeka,

Kan., school does support eight men tennis players and seven women tennis players according to information provided by the Department of Education.

The Gateway apologizes for this mistake.



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programs

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involved!



The University of Nebraska at Omaha has over 100 recognized clubs and organizations in which students may become involved. Fraternities, sororities, Student Government, service agencies, honor societies, professional organizations, the student newspaper, the Student Programming Organization, and special interest groups are all available on campus.

Check with the Student Organizations and Leadership Programs office at any time for an updated list of organizations. Also, if you have a special interest in something that is not already available and would like to start your own club, contact the Student Organizations and Leadership Programs office for additional information. Starting a new club is easy to accomplish.

If you have any questions, and/or would like to get involved in any of UNO's clubs and organizations, stop by our office on the first floor of the Student Center, call 554-2711 or visit our website. Click the "Clubs & Organizations" tab for a listing of recognized clubs and organizations.



studentorgs.unomaha.edu



College of Public Health ground broken, named after chancellor

SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The University of Nebraska Medical Center broke ground for the Harold M. and Beverly Maurer Center for Public Health, named after current UNMC Chancellor Harold Maurer.

"The College of Public Health will add another dimension to the university's impact on Nebraska, and it is fitting that it carry the names of Hal and Beverly Maurer — two individuals who has deep concern for the future of health education and for the quality of life in Nebraska," said NU President James B. Milliken.

The building's benefactors are Ruth and Bill Scott, who made the lead gift for the \$16.5 million project. The entire project is funded by private donations.

"We have seen the superior dedication the Maurers have to health issues and the education of the next generation of health professionals," Ruth Scott said

in a statement. "Their vision to address state health issues, recruit nationally known researchers and create a centralized UNMC campus demonstrates their concern for public health. We are delighted to honor them in this way."

The naming was announced during a press conference Thursday morning. Milliken announced the decision to the surprise of the chancellor and his wife.

"Beverly and I lived by the same philosophy: come to work, work hard and good things will happen," Harold Maurer said. "We are grateful to Ruth and Bill Scott for recognizing the health needs of our state and giving so generously to UNMC to address them."

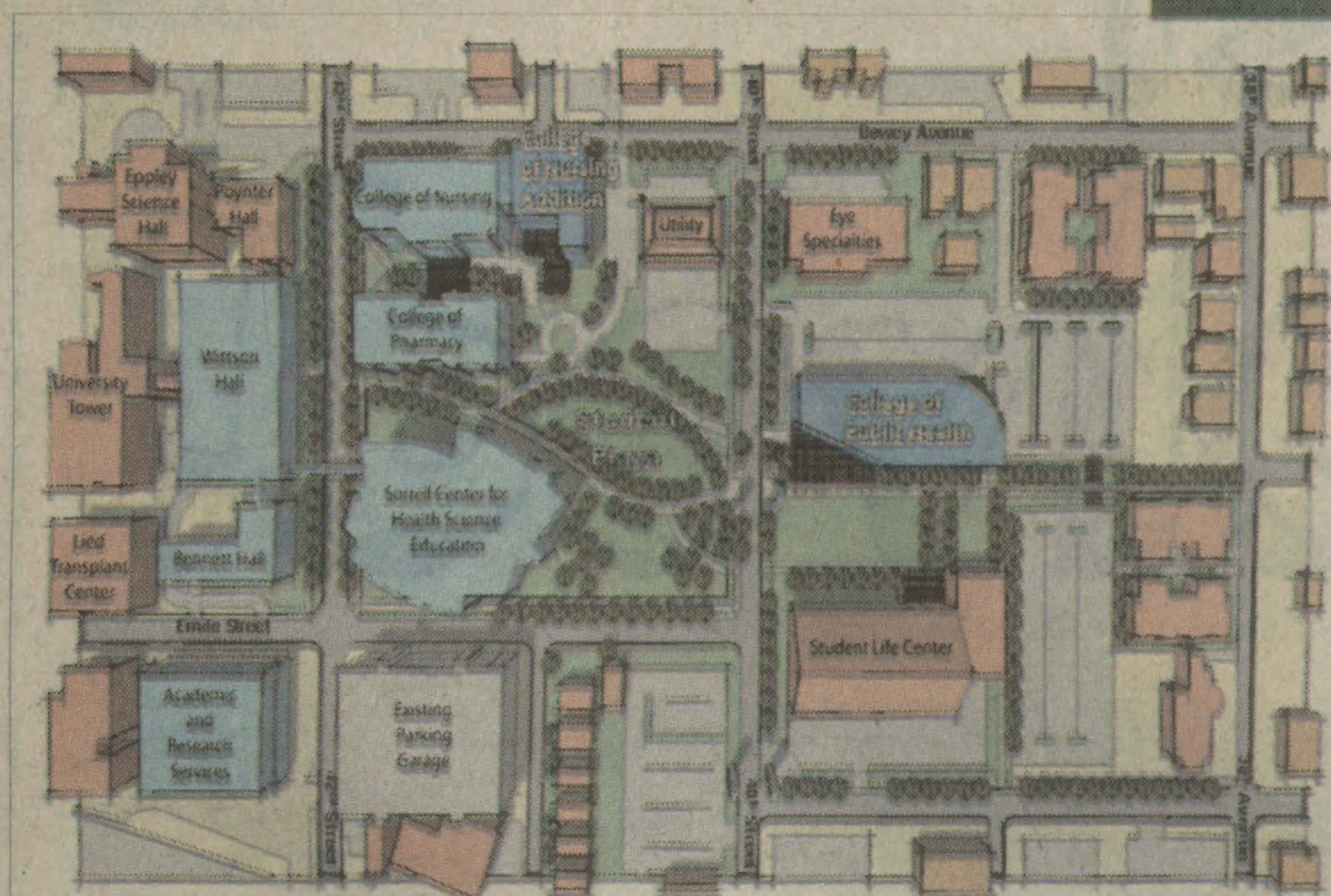
The Maurer Center will house the College of Public Health, which was created by the NU Board of Regents last year. The 52,000-square-foot center will open in April 2010 with a three-story building located south of Dewey Avenue on the east side of 40th Street.

The college is one of less than 40 such public health centers at academic medical centers in the United States. There are no other colleges of public health in the area 1,400 miles east-west and 800 miles north-south of Nebraska.

Its center will include research on issues such as diabetes, childhood obesity, addictions, health disparities, biosecurity and biopreparedness.



Above - Dr. Harold Maurer, Beverly Maurer, Governor Dave Heineman, Bill Scott, Ruth Scott turn dirt during the symbolic groundbreaking ceremony. (Courtesy UNMC Public Affairs)



UNMC Academic Campus Development



thirsty?

Jesus says:

"Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst."

Check out Living H₂O Ministry for Bible study, fellowship & more

Contact don@living-h2o.org for more info

UNO Child Care Center

Educating the University's youngest students

First accredited child care in Nebraska by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs.

When registering for classes, be sure to sign up your child at UNO Child Care.

CALL 554-3398 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO CHECK ON AVAILABILITY STATUS.



JOIN THE HERD!

MAVERICK MOJO — it's that feeling you get when you're walking through campus ... the rush of watching the game ... the knowledge that you're a part of something huge — a school that's going somewhere and taking you with it.

You can't fight the Maverick Mojo. And you won't want to!

Whether you're new to UNO — and Maverick Mojo — or you're a veteran, Welcome Week belongs to you.

It's our way of saying "We're glad you're here!"

WELCOME WEEK 2008

Welcome Week 2008 is
proud to welcome

State Farm

as a sponsor of
the mojo experience!

TUESDAY - AUGUST 26, 11 AM - 1 PM

Academic Excellence
MBSC Plaza

Band: Prarie Dogs

Fun: Jousting, Basketball,
Caricature Drawings
Photo Booth

Free Lunch: {11:30} Hot Dogs,
Chips & Drink

PRIZES!

WEDNESDAY - AUGUST 27, 11 AM - 1 PM

Civic Engagement
MBSC Plaza

Band: Whipkey

Fun: Basketball, Airbrush Tattoos, Photo Booth

Free Lunch: {11:30} Sloppy Joes,
Chips & Drink

Drawing: {State Farm}
Digital Camera

THURSDAY - AUGUST 28, 11 AM - 1 PM

Clubs and Organizations Fair
MBSC Plaza

Music: DJ Rich Nice

Fun: Photo Booth, Metro Credit Union
Raffle Drawing

Snack: Frozen Treat

Drawing: {Metro Credit Union}
iPod & Bike

Visit us on the web!

<http://www.unomaha.edu/welcome>

MAVERICK VILLAGE OPENS DOORS, HOSTS COOKOUT FOR NEW RESIDENTS



ANDREA BARBE/THE GATEWAY

MOVIN' AND GROOVIN'

Left - Phil Aines (left-to-right), Brittany Janing, Tai Hoffman and Dan Nelson took part in the Maverick Village barbecue Saturday night.

Middle left - Students move into the new Maverick Village.

Middle right - Alycia Cousins, Justine Sindt and Shinelle Newman talk during the barbecue.

Middle lower - Chris Tow and Martina Kolobara help Stephanie Grupe get the burgers off the grill.

Far bottom - Brian Stewart, Zach Labrie and Chris Carter grab some food.



VAL LOSEKE/THE GATEWAY



ANDREA BARBE/THE GATEWAY



ANDREA BARBE/THE GATEWAY



ANDREA BARBE/THE GATEWAY

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

2008-09 is a special year . . .

and all of UNO can take part.

Centennial Kickoff Week runs Oct. 8-11.

Look for additional information at
www.UNO100.org

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
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100 YEARS



Suicide suspected in case of prof accused of soliciting sexual favors for grades

BY OLIVIA MORAN
& ASHTON SHURSON
THE DAILY IOWAN (U. IOWA)

IOWA CITY, Iowa, Aug. 21 (UWIRE) — After more than six hours of searching Hickory Hill Park Wednesday afternoon and throughout the night with an infrared-equipped plane, officers were unable to find missing University of Iowa Professor Arthur Miller.

Miller, who police say may be dead, is thought to have a rifle in his possession.

The UI faculty member was charged on Aug. 8 with four counts of accepting a bribe. More accusers have contacted authorities with regard to Miller, Charles Green, the assistant vice president for the UI police, said on Wednesday.

Iowa City police Sgt. Troy Kelsay said police finished their first sweep of the park Wednesday and would use infrared cameras from a state safety patrol plane Wednesday night.

Thursday, officers will resume their search at 7 a.m., although this search is more focused on finding a dead body, Kelsay said. Cadaver dogs were brought in Thursday morning.

"We're transitioning back to search mode to find a body and rifle as opposed to an ambush," Kelsay said. "But until we find him, it is a continued public safety risk."

While police are carefully searching the park, they are still monitoring Miller's bank accounts and other areas in case he has fled.

On Wednesday, roughly 30 to 40 officials from the Iowa City police, the Iowa Department of Corrections with its K-9 units, UI police and the Johnson County Sheriff's Office searched the 185-acre park.

Police believed Miller was in the park after his red BMW was found in a parking lot off Conklin Lane at upper Hickory Hill Park.

Officials used his cell phone, which was left in the car, to triangulate his general area.

Miller's wife reported him missing around 7 a.m. Wednesday, though he was last seen on the morning of Aug. 19. The last call on his cell phone was placed at 9:30 a.m. that day.

The wife also reported that the 66-year-old left a note, which Kelsay said was "apologetic" and "cryptic enough that it causes concern he may be out to harm himself."

Miller purchased a rifle on June 13, Kelsay said, though Johnson County Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek said Miller was denied a weapon permit filed June 24 for a handgun. Pulkrabek had denied Miller the permit because UI officials said he was under investigation in a bribery case.

Police also searched Miller's office and other university locations between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m., Kelsay said. Jessup Hall was locked down, UI police said.

In addition, all Iowa City School District schools were locked down Wednesday around 3 p.m. Officials lifted the lockdown at 3:30 p.m., Associate Superintendent Jim Behle said.

Police are urging non-emergency personnel to stay out of the park.

In May, four female University of Iowa students accused Miller of wanting to exchange sexual favors for higher grades in his class. He has since been placed on paid administrative leave.

In one complaint, a female student told police that during a meeting with Miller, he said she wasn't doing well in regard to her grade. He then allegedly told her she would "have to do something for him." She said Miller then grabbed and sucked on her breast.

The student later allegedly received an e-mail from Miller, congratulating her on getting an "A+" grade and offering assistance with getting into law school.

In another instance, a female student said

Miller offered to give her an "A" grade if she let him fondle and lick her breasts. In an e-mail later, he wrote that "a lasting memory of a lovely Monet cannot be formed in 20 seconds," according to reports.

A third female student told police that Miller once asked her to take off her top in order to improve her grade.

He allegedly asked a fourth female student to take off her top, telling her that women in New Orleans "do it all the time just for beads" and that her grade was "on the line," police reported.

Search warrants in the case show that police now have access to nearly 50 sets of e-mail exchanges among Miller and more than 15 students, UI officials, and other unknown people.

Linda Maxson, the dean of the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, said Miller will not return this fall.

"With charges like this, we don't permit him in the classroom," she said.

A secretary for UI spokesman Steve Parrott said all calls related to the case were being routed to the university's general legal counsel, Marc Mills.

Mills did not return calls seeking comment.

UI President Sally Mason announced last week that all university faculty will receive sexual-harassment training. Such behavior "will not be tolerated," she said in a letter to faculty and staff.

"It is profoundly damaging to the students and to the educational process," Mason wrote. "I applaud the courage of the student victims in coming forward to report this conduct to the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity and to the UI Police Department."

In a news release early last week, UI officials said they are conducting an investigation separate from the criminal one.

update:

Missing body found in Iowa

STAFF REPORTS
THE DAILY IOWAN (U. IOWA)

IOWA CITY, Iowa, Aug. 24 (UWIRE) — A rifle was found beneath the body believed to be University of Iowa professor Arthur Miller at Hickory Hill Park, officials confirmed Sunday.

The male body suffered trauma to the head, Iowa City police Sgt. Mike Brotherton said. Officials could not confirm the exact type of rifle or whether it was fired.

Brotherton said the scene conveyed "some consistencies and similarities that it is a suicide."

Officials are now in the process of removing the body.

A retired deputy discovered the body about a five-minute walk from where Miller's vehicle was found on Aug. 20.

Although the body has not yet been identified, Brotherton said there is "probably a pretty good chance," the body is Miller. The clothes Miller was last seen in were consistent with the clothes on the body. A yellow blanket — which Miller was reportedly carrying before he went missing — was also found near the body.

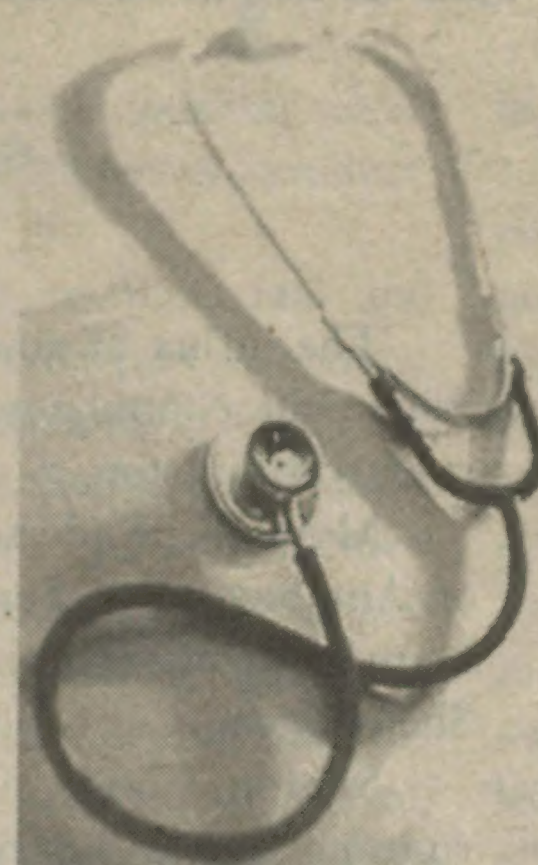
The body was about 30 yards off of a deer trail. The retired deputy who found the body came out specifically to the park to search for Miller.

Police had been searching the park Aug. 20 and Aug. 21 for Miller, who is facing four counts of accepting bribes for allegedly trading higher grades for sexual favors.

Miller has been missing since Aug. 19.

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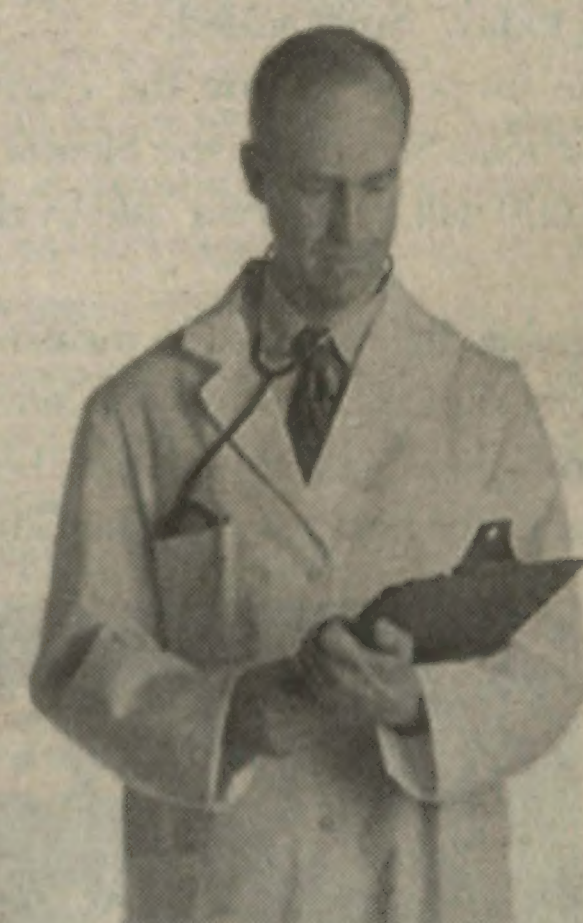
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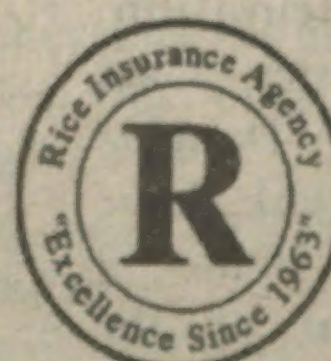
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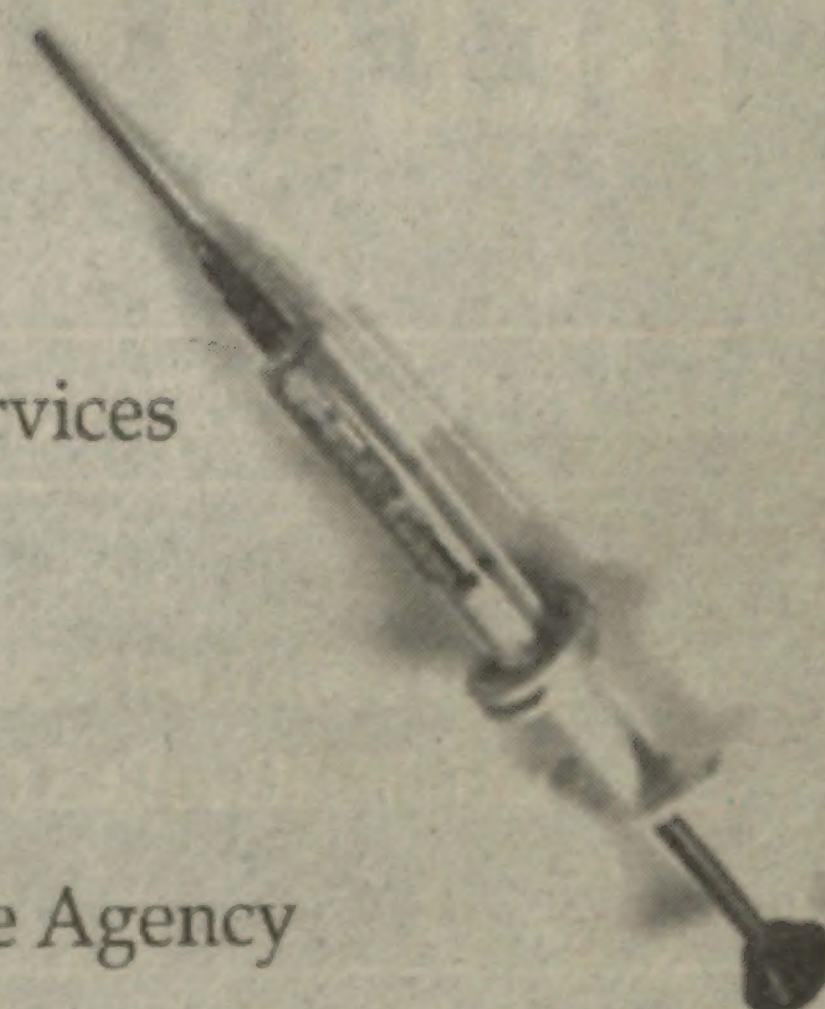
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FROM **HOMELESS:** PAGE 2-A

"I would point out that they are citizens, so they can use the park and they can use the public library," Thele said.

It has taken many years for the concept of a day shelter to be put in effect because it is a new idea; the campus community is a more recent plan. Many other cities such as Chicago and New York already have similar facilities.

The funding required to acquire land is the largest obstacle to providing a long-term solution to homelessness.

"It's very costly to acquire property because not only do you have to buy the property, you have to relocate the business," Thele said.

In the slow process of putting together a homeless services campus, the empowerment center has the highest priority. It is estimated to be 10,000 square feet and cost \$2 million, which will partially be provided through Community Development Block Grant money and philanthropic contributions.

The city already owns the land for the empowerment center and is going through architectural programming to ensure there is space for the services that will be provided. Construction of the center is expected to start around 2011.

The Sienna-Francis House ran a day shelter in the downtown area during the winter months of last year.

"We, at the Sienna-Francis house, ran what we think was a very well run day shelter," Sully said. "We showed the mayor's office that we were capable of doing this successfully."

The day services task force at Sienna-Francis "helped 177 individuals or families find housing, and we know that the majority of those individuals or families are still in their housing today," Sully added.

The proposal to buy the existing building, located at 1624 Nicholas St. next to the Sienna Francis House, at a cost of \$275,000 will be up for a vote by the City Council on Sept. 9.

A public hearing on the measure will take place during the City Council's meeting this afternoon at 2 p.m. in the legislative chambers downtown. Look for more about the proposal in the next issue of The Gateway.

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University to welcome new human resources director in this semester

SCOTT STEWART

EDITOR IN CHIEF

The influx of new administrators over the last couple years will continue with the addition of a new human resources director.

Mollie K. Anderson, director of the Iowa Department of Administrative Services, will take over the 13-person Human Relations unit of Business and Finance on Oct. 1. She replaces Rod Oberle, who retired in May.

Sharon Ulmar, assistant to the chancellor, has been running day-to-day operations since Oberle's retirement, Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance Bill Conley said. Oberle helped with the transition through mid-July, and Conley has helped resolve any problems that have surfaced.

Anderson was chosen after a national search chaired by Oberle. She was one of five finalists.

"It is tremendously exciting for me to be coming home to Nebraska and to be joining UNO," Anderson said in a statement. "UNO has an outstanding reputation for academic excellence, and I am proud to have been given the opportunity to be part of its future."

Conley said Anderson had an outstanding list of experience — one that includes more than 20 years of public and private sector human resources management. Anderson brings both knowledge and expertise to the table, Conley said.

Besides her current position, Anderson has acted as the director of the Iowa Department of Personnel, deputy

commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Labor and executive director of Job Training of Greater Nebraska. She's also been the human resources director for the state of Nebraska as well as for Duncan Aviation.

Anderson will take over in October because she requested a 45-day notice be given to the governor's office in Iowa. She will be relocating from the Des Moines area.

Nevertheless, Conley said, Anderson has already taken an active interest in her new position at UNO.

"I'm talking with and e-mailing her everyday at this point," Conley said. "We're starting the dialogue, which is great."

Conley said Anderson would be one of his core team members, which will include weekly meetings with the other Business and Finance department directors. Business and Finance is divided into five units — Finance, Human Resources, Facilities Management and Planning, Milo Bail Student Center and Risk Management — which are coordinated by Conley and Associate Vice Chancellor Julie Totten.

Anderson's duties include monitoring compliance with state, federal and university regulations; overseeing recruitment and selection of staff; interpreting policies and procedures; standardizing position descriptions; counseling on a variety of human resources issues; and managing the university's fringe benefits programs.

Conley summed up Anderson's appointment by saying she is a "very impressive person" who is "great for UNO." He said he looks forward to working with her in the future.

Fertility rates highest in state for 25 years

TAYLOR MULLER
CONTRIBUTOR

Nebraska had the greatest number of births since 1982 in 2006, according to a report compiled by researchers at UNO.

David Drozd, research associate for the Center for Public Affairs Research and co-author of the report, said the increase of births per 1,000 women of productive age has been increasing and will most likely continue to rise the next five to eight years.

He said the report, compiled through UNO's Center for Public Affairs Research, is a useful tool for demographers and policy makers, allowing county, state or various agencies to use the numbers to plan ahead.

"Nebraska has started to have this rural-urban divide, in place during the last 10 [to] 20 years," Drozd said.

Despite the statewide increase in births, many of Nebraska's rural counties experienced a downtrend in population.

The report was initially presented at CPAR's annual state data conference on Aug. 14 at the Boys Town Conference Center. It is now available on-line at cpar.unomaha.edu/documents/BirthReport.pdf.

"That's where the policy makers come in to analyze what's happening and then make appropriate decisions," Drozd said.

"Even among the political representation, Lancaster, Cass and Douglas [counties] have more than 50 percent of the state's population, which affects the number of unicameral members from greater Nebraska."

The primary researcher of the project, Drozd also worked with Jerry Deichert, director of CPAR, and co-author of the report, over the past year. Deichert helped pull reports and compile data.

"Some of the information we had available had to add a year or two to the existing trend lines; other things had to be taken from print versions, specifically versions from Health and Human Services," Drozd said.

"Sometimes, there isn't a clear 'This is a good, this is bad.' [Administrators] have to realize as they put different policies in place, might be some direct and indirect effects and outcomes."

The key points of the report focus on how children of baby boomers are fueling the increase in fertility. The report also indicates Hispanic births are certainly contributing to the increase; non-Hispanic Caucasian and black births, however, are rising.

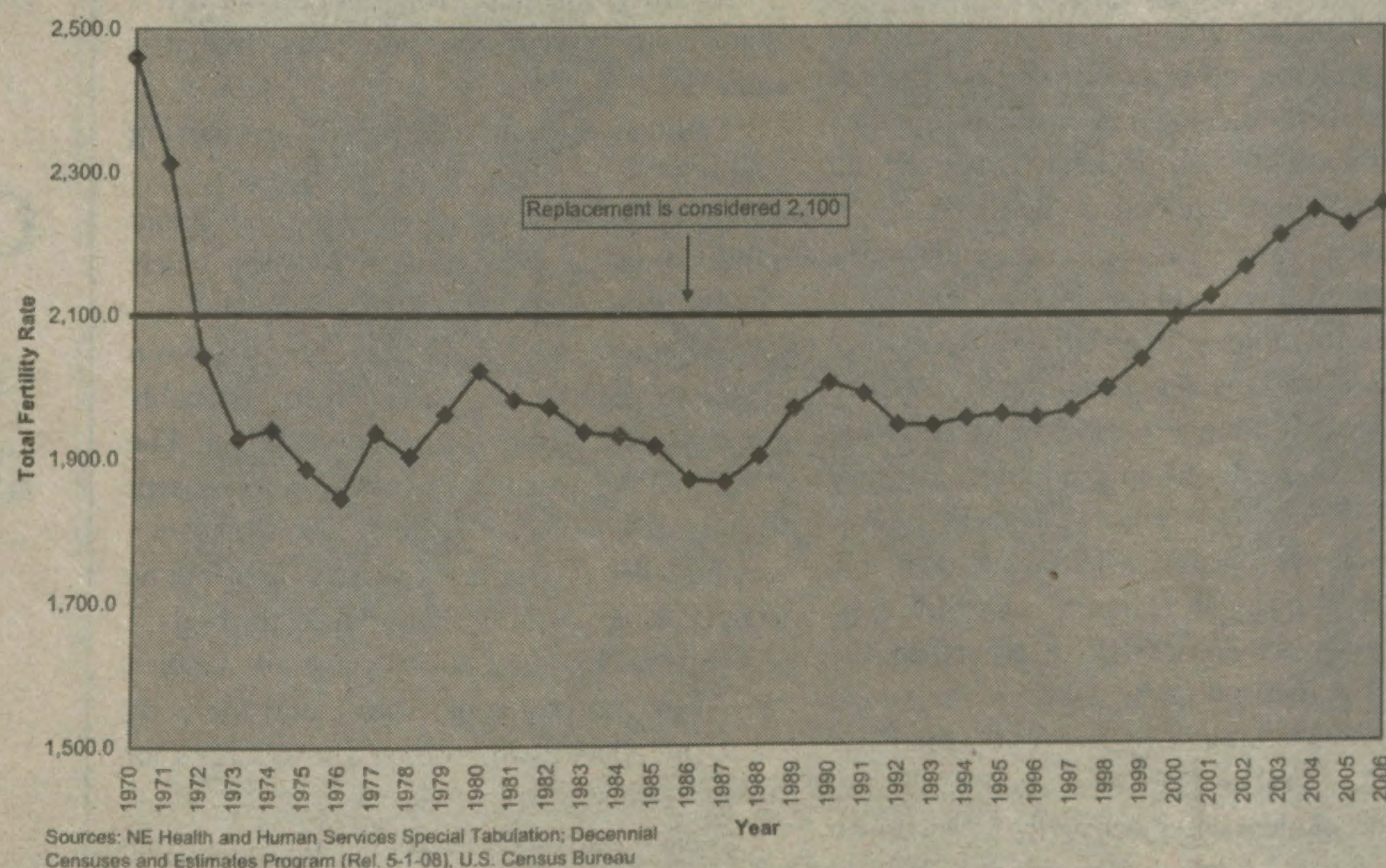
Similar to the baby boom of the 1970s, Drozd said the current rise in fertility is caused by the overwhelming number of women entering reproductive age — the years between 15 and 44.

Drozd said part of the reason for the population increase was also due decreasing numbers of abortions.

In 1990, abortions peaked at 250 induced abortions for every 1,000 live births. The figure dropped to about 100 abortions per 1,000 live births during 2006.

"We already have seen some preliminary estimates for 2007, which did show another year of gain and births," Drozd said. "2015 looks like it would level off, pull back, but births would stay at relatively high levels."

Figure 6d: Total Fertility Rate: Nebraska 1970 to 2006
(Total Births per 1,000 Women Over their Lifetime)



courtesy report

Updated environmental report card knocks UNO off honor roll for campus sustainability

SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The National Wildlife Federation released its 2008 Campus Environmental Report Card, and the University of Nebraska at Omaha has dropped off the radar among the leading green schools.

In 2001, the last time the NWF issue the report card, UNO was excited as a leading school in four areas. This year, however, UNO is not included in any of the report's categories for exemplary programs.

The report card surveyed 27 percent of U.S. colleges and universities, making it the largest study of environmental trends and campus sustainability ever conducted.

A statement about the report card lists water conservation as the most prevalent environmental initiative on college campuses today, instead of recycling as it was in 2001. Conserving energy is the most prevalent goal, instead of improving environmental performance in new buildings.

The report highlights concern over a lack of adequate education about sustainability. For instance, just over half of the colleges surveyed offer an undergraduate major or minor in environmental and sustainability studies, rather than the two-thirds surveyed in 2001.

UNO is one of those colleges, offering an undergraduate interdisciplinary degree in environmental studies.

"This report card tells us there is a widening gap between

where higher education actually is teaching sustainability versus where it should be," Kevin Coyle, NWF's president of education, said in a statement.

The biggest obstacle to expanding environmental and sustainability programming, according to the report, is funding. In 2001, "other priorities" was the chief obstacle cited.

"The 2008 report finds that campus leaders value sustainability," Julian Keniry, NWF's senior director of campus and community leadership, said in a statement. "At the same time, the educational curricula to prepare students for a post-college world influenced by climate change are not keeping pace. On most campuses, the business leaders and facilities managers appear to be making greater strides towards sustainability than their faculty peers."

More than 240 schools across the country were listed in the report card as having exemplary levels of sustainability and green programs.

The only school in Nebraska to meet any of the report card's conditions for exemplary programs was Chadron State College in Chadron, Neb., which operates a wood-fired heating facility. According to a report by the Nebraska Forest Service, Chadron State uses 9,000 tons of wood chips each year to heat and cool more than a million feet of building space.

The four areas UNO excelled at in the 2001 report were environmental accountability standards, energy efficiency and conservation, recycling and land management programs. With changes in the standards, UNO failed to meet any of these areas

in 2008.

The environmental accountability standard in 2001 required accountability measures to be in place campus-wide, not just in some units. The 2008 standards require schools to support faculty development on sustainability topics, evaluate how environmental topics are integrated into coursework and have campus units be held accountable for environmental performance.

The energy efficiency and conservation standard in 2001 required the use of renewable sources of energy for at least some electricity, heating and cooling needs. It also required at least four of the following: water efficiency upgrades; lighting efficiency upgrades; heating, ventilation and air conditioning upgrades; efficient design codes for new or existing buildings; and life-cycle analysis for energy project evaluation.

The 2008 standards require all of 2001 criteria plus information technology energy reductions, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification for new buildings and renovation as well as the development of formal plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The recycling, solid waste and materials flow standard for 2001 required at least 12 of the following, with at least 10 implemented campus-wide: recycle higher grade paper, recycle lower grade paper, recycle corrugated cardboard, recycle aluminum, recycle glass, recycle plastic, compost or mulch food scraps or landscape trimmings, recycle construction materials, operate a materials exchange program, encourage environmentally sound purchases, reduce paper hard copies, encourage micro-scale lab experiments, require 25 percent minimum post-consumer waste recycled office paper and specify chlorine-free requirements for office paper.

The 2008 requirements are the same, but also allow electronic recycling as an additional criterion.

The lands and grounds management programs standard for 2001 required schools to run habitat restoration programs, operate native landscaping programs, identify and remove invasive exotic species, integrate pest management and provide

TO ENVIRONMENT: PAGE 14-A

Congress addresses sustainability issues

TAYLOR MULLER
CONTRIBUTOR

Those universities looking to become more energy-efficient or increase campus sustainability may have a little help from the federal government, but funding should not be expected until 2010, said spokespeople for the National Wildlife Federation.

Signed into law by President George W. Bush on Aug. 14, the Higher Education Sustainability Act as part of the new Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 could allow for up to \$50 million for institutions of higher education to take those steps towards turning green.

Another sign of sustainability on campus was indicated by a university report card that was recently released, highlighting those institutions across the nation that have made particular strides in turning green, said Julian Keniry, senior director of Campus Ecology at the National Wildlife Federation.

The report card, Campus Environment 2008, examines the 1,068 responding universities, of which 240 were identified as having a variety of exemplary programs in place, including energy efficiency, green transportation and education of conservation.

The report, which is available at campusecology.org, examined two year and four year institutions as well as state and private universities. Nebraska had 10 participating institutions, but only Chadron State College stood out due to its programs related to campus clean energy sources, Keniry said.

"There were some schools that really stood out, quite a few really strong programs in place. As a nation we're doing a pretty good job greening the campus, tending energy, greener buildings, retrofitting older buildings, but we're lagging behind on educating students," Keniry said.

"We're not preaching what we practice, just not happening. Students in certain disciplines, health sciences, engineering, business, are barely being exposed to

sustainability issues at all."

This is where HESA comes in. Awaiting appropriation by Congress, the bill's impact could hinge on the amount of money available, said James Elder, director of the Campaign for Environmental Literacy.

"Next step is to make sure Congress appropriates as close to the \$50 million, just another phase of this campaign to go through," Elder said.

"At the moment it may mean nothing. The government fiscal year ends in September and Oct. 1 will be the 2009 fiscal year. Securing funds for 2009 seems unlikely, far more likely that funds will be in the 2010 budget."

The hope would be that the money would go toward innovation and high leverage demonstration programs particularly on the education side, Elder said.

There are about 4,000 higher education campuses the bill aims to transform.

"I think that universities are one of the biggest sectors that has the most leverage, they're the nation's incubator for future leaders, they prepare most of the professionals who lead and influence society," Elder said. "They have significant economic social footprints, they have the unique academic freedom as well as the critical mass to develop new ideas and experiment in this arena."

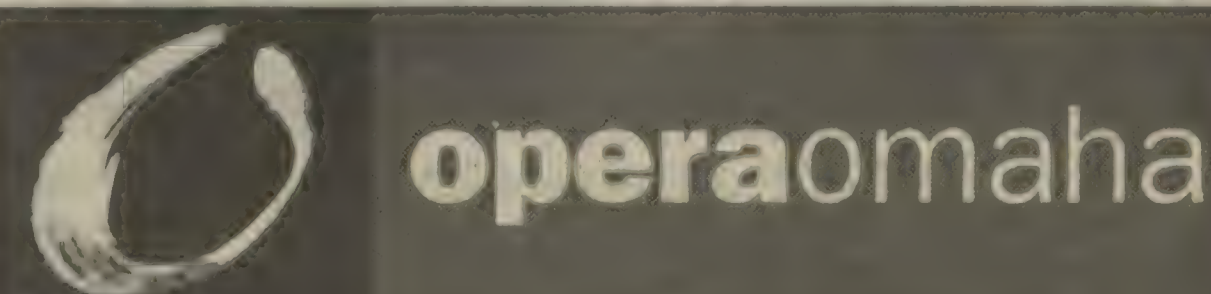
Keniry said hopefully down the road, the proper amount, billions, could be devoted to the issue.

"If not colleges and universities, who will lead?" said Keniry. "Colleges and universities have to lead and they're also really uniquely positioned to lead, blessed with so many disciplines and professionals and resources."

Both Elder and Keniry said these first few steps toward making sweeping energy changes were absolutely necessary and a good start in making changes in how humans interact with the environment.

"It's about making a transition to a new world view that recognizes we're up against the limits of nature and that we need to start recognizing that humans are basically a subset of nature, rather than nature being a subset of humans," Elder said.

Check out the next issue of
The Gateway on next Tuesday!



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Conflict in Georgia may force U.S. to rethink global strategy

NANCY A. YOUSSEF
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON (MCT) Aug. 20 — For the first time since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the United States is contemplating a Russia that has used military force against a neighbor and wondering what, if anything, it must do to counter it.

In a world where U.S. military strategy has been focused since Sept. 11 on fighting terrorist groups and foreign insurgencies, the sudden Russian move into Georgia raises troubling questions for military thinkers, many of whom had hoped that tensions with Russia were a thing of the distant past.

The decision Tuesday to include in a missile-defense treaty with Poland Patriot missiles and other weapons that would be most useful in a fight with Russia, is one

after then Russian President Vladimir Putin at an annual security conference in Germany last year accused the United States of seeking to expand NATO to isolate Russia.

Actions that at one time would have been seen as provocative, such as Russia's renewal last year of flights by strategic bombers off the U.S. coast, drew little official response, until this week, when Rice referred to them as "dangerous."

"I think frankly we have been pretty restrained in this," Gates said, "and I would say, beginning with my remarks at the Vercunda Conference a year ago February where now-Prime Minister Putin's speech was regarded by virtually everyone there as very aggressive, and we have tried not to respond in that manner."

With the U.S. military tied down in Iraq and Afghanistan and its training and procurement emphasis now shifted



Russian soldiers stand on the road just outside Gori, north of Tbilisi, Georgia, Aug. 14. (Tom Lasseter/MCT)

thwart an attack on Poland by Russia, said Stephen Flanagan, a Russia expert at the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Which leaves some at the Pentagon fretting that since Iraq, the U.S. has focused too much of its training on counterinsurgency and is now caught off guard by allies that need more conventional help.

The military, which spent years studying every aspect of the Soviet Army, has spent most of the last five years on counterinsurgency, moving some troops over the testing and into classrooms that teach Arabic and cultural awareness.

"Have we gone too far the other way?" one military commander asked this week.

Last month, the Pentagon officially

called the war on terrorism its priority and suggested that it had already mastered conventional warfare.

"We must display a mastery of irregular warfare comparable to that which we possess in conventional combat," Gates said then.

Most Pentagon officials in the past week have been unwilling to say the U.S. must change direction again.

Kupchan says he's betting the change isn't necessary.

The U.S. agreed to put Patriot missiles in Poland "because it needed to send a message," Kupchan said.

"Are NATO war planners again burning the midnight oil to draft plans for a potential conflict against Russia? My guess is no," he said. "Russia will not continue down this road."



A Russian flag flies atop a tank at a Russian military checkpoint being established at Chkhorotsku in western Georgia, on Friday, Aug. 22. (Shashank Bengali/MCT)

aspect of this new thinking.

But it is also symptomatic of how unprepared — or unwilling — the U.S. is to return to those days when, for 45 years, America was obsessed with the idea that the next conflict would be in central Europe.

The deal, signed Tuesday in Warsaw by U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk, calls for the placement of 10 U.S. interceptor missiles just 115 miles from Russia's western-most frontier. In addition, the U.S. would establish an American military base to support the Patriots, which can shoot down short-range missiles.

But few analysts saw that as a real reaction to Russian aggression. Instead they portrayed it as an effort to dress up an agreement to make it look like a response to events in Georgia.

"It's a baby step," said Charles A. Kupchan, a senior fellow for Europe Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, who is skeptical that the Russian move into Georgia portends a newly aggressive military posture from Moscow.

"At this point, it's not about a Russia that is bent on an imperial conquest," he said.

Pentagon officials have made it clear that they don't want a return to the days of the Cold War. They've resisted White House calls to send naval forces to the Black Sea in response to Russia's invasion of Georgia and have opted instead for a once a day flight of humanitarian aid to the Georgian capital.

Last week, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, a former CIA Soviet expert, noted that the United States has tried to keep the rhetoric low for months, even

to counterinsurgency, not conventional warfare, it's easy to understand why.

During the Cold War, the U.S. military included 20 divisions poised to respond to a Soviet move; during the Clinton administration, the number of divisions was cut to 10. The military now has only one stationary division in the world, in South Korea. The rest are rotating in and out of Iraq and Afghanistan.

But as Russian troops entered Georgia and humiliated its beleaguered army, U.S. officials felt pressure to reassure its NATO allies that Russia would not be allowed to enter Poland, Ukraine and other nearby countries:

That led the U.S. to cave on its long resistance to Polish requests for Patriot missiles as part of its agreement to host interceptors to defend against a potential Iranian nuclear threat, which some experts believe could come as early as 2012.

The Poles wanted the Patriots to protect it against a possible Russian threat.

Fritz Ermarth, who was a Soviet expert for President Reagan, said the Polish agreement might have some practical effect.

"In diplomatic parlance, this is not 'directed against' Russia; it is a part of the ballistic missile defense capability intended to combat small scale missile attack by rogue states, mainly Iran. That's been the aim and policy of the U.S. and its allies for years," he said.

"But in political parlance, it is clearly a response to and a rebuff to Russian aggressiveness in the Caucasus. ... It negates some Russian options for intimidation."

Still, most analysts saw the Patriot system as "symbolic." It certainly wouldn't

FROM RUSSIA: PAGE 2-A

these republics there were large numbers of Russians, and a lot of these former republics resented the Russian dominance," he said, including Georgia in their numbers.

Here, Bacon commented on the American intelligence community's lack of vigilance in the face of mounting tensions, specifically in Georgia: "We should have known that Sakaashvili was going to go off the deep end and we should have warned him not to do it. We should have known that the Russians were totally prepared to implement the response they did."

After several days of the ensuing violence, which saw Russian forces driving tanks into Gori, just down the road from the capital of Tbilisi, presidents on both sides signed a ceasefire. Brokered by French President Nicolas Sarkozy, this peace plan called for a joint retreat of both Russian and Georgian forces to their previous positions in South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

Bacon commented that the extreme violence in the region, characterized by burned villages, rapes and robbery, has likely spun out of Russian control.

"Most of the atrocities that are being committed in Georgia today are being committed by militias from South Ossetia and from Abkhazia who are not under the direct control of the Russian military but who were armed and who were supplied for all their needs by the Russian military," Bacon said. "Russians so far have shown very little inclination to control the activities of these groups. Maybe they can't. I don't know."

Complicating matters further, or perhaps as an economic thrust behind these events, is a crucial oil pipeline housed within the borders of Georgia. Russia has a government whose funding comes overwhelming from oil dollars. Additionally, its president, Medvedev, was the longtime chairman of Gazprom, the state-controlled oil and natural gas monopoly — which also happens to be the world's largest natural gas

company.

With Russia's considerable power over the rest of Europe stemming from a stranglehold on important oil reserves, this pipeline likely stands firmly at the crux of the issue. It also raises questions about whether or not the Europeans' response was dampened by their combined sense of Russia's oil clout.

In the words of Bacon, when considering the implications of Russian aggression taken against its neighbors, it can be reasonably inferred that "the Russians have never gotten off their historically-based distrust of the world."

Bacon said the Russians' prime objective was "to intimidate not only Georgia but anyone else on Russia's borders who might be tempted to exert or stand up for their own territorial integrity." Bacon also sees these recent acts as a message directed at the Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova.

What remains to be seen is the affect this will have on Russian relations with the rest of the world. Gouttierre speculated: "All of those nations [the former republics of the Soviet Union] are probably going to be looking with a little more distrust at their relationship with Russia. ... And, in the long term, in a world in which the economies of nations are enhanced by, you know, productive, peaceful relations between nations, this isn't a good move."

Bacon was less optimistic about Russian objectives: "Dean Gouttierre's correct in that it's much better to gain power through multilateral cooperation. I'm not convinced that Russia is interested in that. They see multilateral cooperation as a way of increasing their own power. Period. Not increasing a global community's power."

Whatever the long-term objectives of the Russian Federation, it seems unlikely that its foreign policy will espouse peaceful cooperation with its neighbors any time soon.

As nerves begin to fray, Georgians talk of resisting invasion

BY TOM LASSETER
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

GORI, Georgia (MCT) Aug. 21 — After more than a week of Russian troops occupying his town, Kishvardi Taturashvili said the time for resistance was drawing near.

The Russian armored fighting vehicles that are blocking routes in and out of Gori are slowing the flow of humanitarian aid and stifling trade, he said.

Travel is controlled by Russian soldiers; a McClatchy Newspapers reporter was turned back at checkpoints and had to slip in via a footbridge.

"If they stay, we won't get enough supplies and the war will start again," said Taturashvili, who works for the local power company. "People will take their guns and go to the forests."

While there are no signs of insurgency, it's clear that tempers are rising and nerves are fraying in Gori, an important waypoint on the country's main east-west corridor.

The city sits near a route to South Ossetia, the breakaway region that Georgia tried to take earlier this month before being thrashed by Russian tanks and jets. The way to South Ossetia — where the Red Cross was allowed access only on Wednesday — is guarded by Russian armored vehicles and machine gun bunkers fashioned from concrete blocks.

On Thursday, Gori's streets were mostly empty of cars; at the sound of an approaching engine, people turned their heads quickly to see whether it was a Russian truck. Dozens of people at a downtown square shouted and pushed their way to the window of an aid-distribution station.

"We're all running out of food," said Nana Nazadze, who was watching two old women scream at each other. "I ran out yesterday; my neighbor gave me some sausage."

Lamara Tinikashvili motioned in the direction of a Russian checkpoint down the road: "They're allowing aid in, but it's not being given to us."

After speaking, Nazadze implored a reporter, "Please be careful about where you use my name or the Russians will get me."

When food came a couple of hours later, men and

women scurried off with shopping bags stuffed with potatoes.

Kremlin officials said Thursday that their troops were set to pull back to South Ossetia within a day.

But many residents in Gori, the birthplace of Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin, don't believe that it will happen.

"They are just moving their tanks from Gori to the villages, back and forth," said Gmuro Turashvili, who sent his wife and children out of town when the Russian bombing runs began last week.

Last Thursday, Russian Maj. Gen. Vyacheslav Borisov said his men would hand much of the control of Gori over to Georgian police in two days. "The police have now returned to the city, and all civilians will be able to return, too, after control is established," Borisov said at the time.

Those two days came and went, and still the Russian army sat. Georgian police units on Thursday were about 15 miles down the road, hemmed in by Russian checkpoints.

Some in Gori said the Russian presence helped keep away thieves and South Ossetians looking for revenge. "If the Russians had not come into our city, it would have been worse because of the looters," said a priest at the local Orthodox Church, who gave his name only as Father Georgi.

Still, the priest said, it was hard to accept. "You are on your own land, but someone else is controlling it," he said. "This is very uncomfortable."

Sitting under a spot of shade, two men argued about what to do.

"We are Georgian; we will never be slaves," said Teimuraz Onezashvili, a laborer. "There will be a war."

Vladimir Muradashvili, who's also a laborer, shook his head, saying that he was sympathetic to the idea but that no one in town had anything to compete with tanks.

Russian units have spent the past several days destroying weapons left behind at a nearby military base. They also have burned underbrush along the main road leading into town, removing any potential ambush points.

"We should not start a war. We will only fail,"

Russian soldiers take prisoners

Russian forces continue their occupation of Georgia and operate freely inside the country despite pledges to withdraw.



Muradashvili said.

"No," Onezashvili shot back, "we should fight."

Others were more resigned.

"The Russians said they would leave, but look at them, they're still here," said Mikhail Robakidze, who was watching a Russian troop transport truck rumble by the town square. "The Russians want to own Georgia. Will that happen? I guess we'll find out."

Robakidze sat on the curb next to the Bank of Georgia, whose windows had been shattered by a Russian bomb. Without banks to withdraw money from, Robakidze said, the few grocery shops that have opened mean little.

Standing in one of those groceries, Levan Kharazishvili said the Russians had taught Georgia a hard lesson. After years of seeing Georgia draw closer to the West, Russia decided it was time to put the country — and its pro-American president, Mikhail Saakashvili — in its place, he said.

"The Russians bombed us for each time Saakashvili said something bad about them," he said. "I don't know where it's leading. Maybe we will survive, maybe not."



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SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2008

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08/28/08	09/16/08	First half of tuition and fees
09/19/08	10/07/08	Remaining balance

LATE PAYMENT FEE

Each unpaid bill is subject to late payment fees. A Late Payment Fee of \$25 will be assessed to unpaid balances of \$400 or less. A \$50 Late Payment Fee will be assessed to unpaid balances over \$400. Students who do not make their required payments will have holds placed on their enrollment, financial aid and transcripts.

It is the responsibility of each student to know the tuition payment schedule, the late payment fee policy and the refund policy and deadlines.

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Conley brings connection to campus as vice chancellor

JILLIAN WHITNEY
CONTRIBUTOR

UNO's new chief of business operations epitomizes the importance of developing diversity while remaining true to self.

Bill Conley was born in Omaha in 1962. He spent his childhood as a Boy Scout and playing soccer. Conley described his life as a boy as remarkably unremarkable.

"Academically, I was average, and I didn't really apply myself until I was in college," Conley said.

Conley never really knew what he wanted to do for a career when he was younger. It wasn't until he entered high school and started taking business classes that he decided to pursue accounting.

After graduating, Conley then moved on to college at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He received his bachelor's degree in business administration in 1984 and a master's in business administration from UNO in 1992.

Conley then served as managing director of Flatwater Ventures LLC in 2007. He previously worked at the Omaha World-Herald's parent company in various executive posts starting in 1990.

Most recently, Conley served as vice president and director of Administrative Services and president of World Investments Inc., while being a member of the World-Herald's board of directors.

"A combination of 23 years of business experience and extensive involvement in

community organizations drew me to a financial leadership role in a community organization," Conley said.

When he heard about the opening at UNO for a vice chancellor in business and finance, he jumped at the chance. More than five months ago, Conley was hired as the new vice chancellor after an extensive search process.

"I've had a lifelong connection to UNO, having been on campus as a kid while attending games and camps," Conley said. "I really have a love for this campus and the great services offered to students and the community. So, being named vice

chancellor for Business and Finance was a thrill. ... I'm still thrilled and honored to be here and part of the UNO team."

Since joining the UNO administrative team, Conley strives to uphold the university's mission.

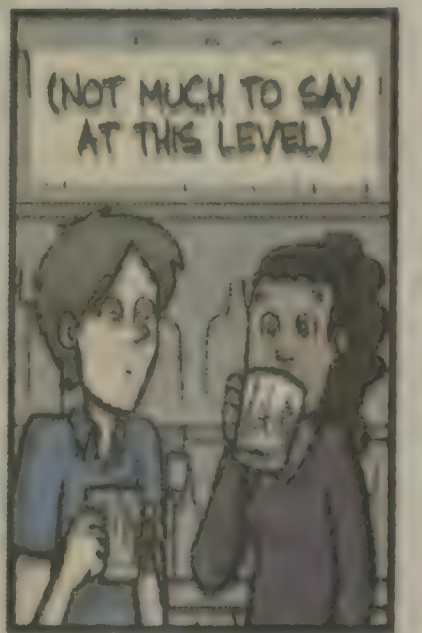
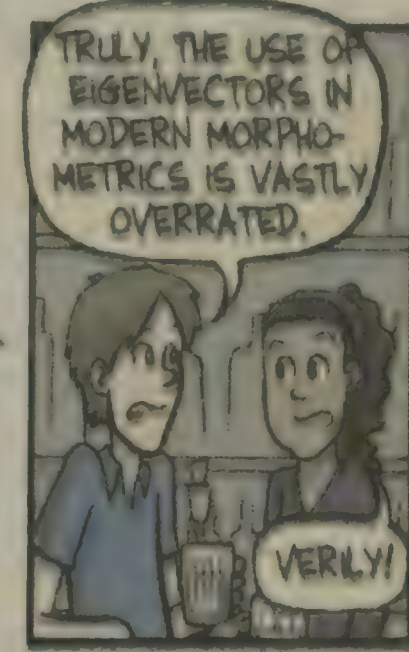
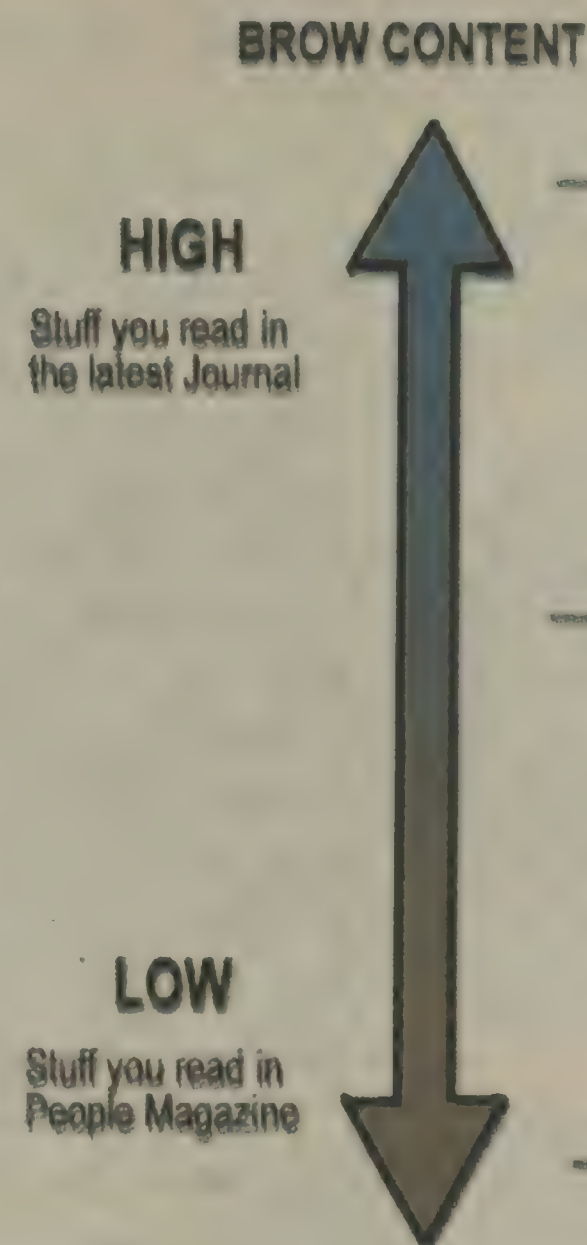
"The mission of Business and Finance at UNO is to provide the highest quality services in support of UNO's mission through the thoughtful stewardship of financial, infrastructure and human resources."

Conley said he wants to stress to incoming UNO students the importance of diverse experiences.

"Get involved and be passionate about your collegiate experience," Conley said. "Also, be a 'cultural traveler' ... meaning branch out and get to know other students, faculty, staff and even those of us in administration."



TYPICAL SPECTRUM OF GRAD STUDENT CONVERSATIONS



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

JORGE QUINN © 2008

FROM ENVIRONMENT: PAGE 11-A

programs to give food and shelter to attract wildlife. At least four of these criteria had to be performed campus-wide. The 2008 requirements add a criterion for green roofs on buildings, but allow still only four of the criteria to be implemented campus-wide.

Overall, the 2008 report card grades for colleges and universities nationwide were:

- Setting and Reviewing Goals: 'B'
- Staffing of Environmental Programs: 'B'
- Orienting Students, Staff and Faculty: 'C'
- Integration of Environmental Topics into Academic Programs: 'C'
- Professional Development for Faculty on Environmental Topics: 'C+'
- Water Efficiency Upgrades: 'A'
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation: 'B+'
- On-Campus Electricity Generation: 'D'
- On-Campus Heating and Cooling Using On-Site Sources: 'D'
- On-Campus Co-generated Heating and Cooling: 'D'
- Electricity Demand Using Off-Campus Renewable Energy: 'C'
- Water Diversion: 'C'
- Activity Level and Array of Materials Recycled: 'A'
- Landscaping Overall: 'B'
- Transportation Demand Management: 'C'

Welcome back!

FROM THE

College of Education



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Student fee-funded groups offer chance to get involved on campus

Student Government

KIRBY KAUFMAN
STAFF WRITER

The office for the student government is located in the Milo Bail Student Center across from Maverick Productions and Student Organization and Leadership Programs.

The purpose of Student Government is to take the interests and concerns of the students and to turn them into resolutions.

From the Board of Regents and national legislation to local issues and student concerns, they hear policy issues and changes. There are three branches of Student Government: the legislative, executive and judicial.

The executive branch assists the Student Senate, the legislative, resolution-writing branch of the organization. The judicial branch deals with rules and also handles traffic tickets, as well as the student elections. If a student feels they should not have to pay a ticket or were wrongfully ticketed they can take the appeal up with Traffic Appeals Commission, one of the appointed bodies of Student Government.

There are also student agencies within Student Government on the lower levels of the Milo Bail Student Center. More about the agencies – American Multicultural Students, International Student Services, Network for disAbleD Students, Women's Resource Center and Gender and Sexual Orientation – can be found in next Tuesday's issue of The Gateway.

Student Government is a student fee-funded organization. They try to allocate the funds to serve student interests.

"We do not want to spend a lot of the students' money," said Lucas Seiler, the current president of Student Government and student regent on the Board of Regents.

The Student Activities Budget Commission, another body appointed in part by Student Government, is responsible for discussing those student fees and taking care of it. The money approved by SABC supports Student Government, its agencies, Maverick Productions and 30 percent of The Gateway.

Student Government spends money on opportunities and aids for the student body.

They fund UNO's Collegiate Readership Program, which brings copies of The New York Times, USA Today and Omaha World-Herald to UNO. There are currently nine locations on campus, with three more coming soon.

Student Government members are currently unpaid, but nevertheless put in a minimum number of hours each week towards their activities. Executives are required to put in five office hours a week, while judicial and senate members are required to put in only one hour a week.

Joining Student Government is different depending on the position one is going for. Some offices are appointed, while others are elected directly by the student body.

The Student Senate is comprised of 32 seats, which are divided among the different colleges and student classes. In the annual student election, students can vote for the college they are primarily enrolled in as well as for their class senators.

Student Government is an excellent opportunity for students to get their foot into the door and start making changes on campus, Seiler said.

Seiler tries to divide his time evenly among different business for the campus. His current focus is bringing recycling to campus.

"I'm happy to see it's happening," Seiler said.

The recycle bins have been received by the campus and will be distributed in the next few weeks. Student Government is helping implement the recycle campaign.

The Gateway

KIRBY KAUFMAN
STAFF WRITER

The Gateway is UNO's student newspaper – the only official student publication on campus.

It is here that writers, photographers, editors and designers collaborate ideas to put out a publication worthy of being read by the students here at UNO. Scott Stewart holds the title of editor in chief.

The Gateway is currently in a transitional stage for the staff, Stewart said. Right now, the staff and freelance reporters are made up of a couple dozen people. In past semesters, that number has ballooned out towards 100 frequent and infrequent contributors.

The paper is published twice a week during regular semesters, sometimes taking a break right before students head to vacation. Over the course of the summer, the frequency drops to every other week due to lessened funds from advertising and fewer students on campus.

For UNO's centennial celebration, The Gateway is putting together a special magazine, similar to the Retrospect magazine published in the spring.

The Retrospect has characteristics of a yearbook as it recalls events prominent to the year. It serves as the de facto yearbook for the campus, as the old UNO "Tomahawk" yearbook did before it went defunct decades ago, Stewart said.

The centennial magazine will mainly focus on UNO's history throughout the 100 years of its existence.

"We're excited for it," Stewart said. "It tells UNO's story to students, community members, alumni and will make sure that people know what is going on at UNO."

As far as the actual student publication goes, The Gateway has been around since 1913. When the university opened in 1908, several different newspapers sprouted, but The Gateway emerged as one of the stronger competitors, Stewart said. It had a few breaks in publication since those years, but has been regularly published since the first years of Omaha University.

The Gateway is partially funded by student fees, using no more than 30 percent of its money from Fund A fees, which are allocated by student representatives and subject to a vote in the student election. At any given time, at least 70 percent of its money comes directly from advertising.

Stewart said UNO's student publication was run by a dedicated group of students aiming to keep the university community informed of events going on campus, outside the local area and even nationally.

"We're here to serve the student community in particular," Stewart said. "Our mission is to serve the role that a newspaper serves in the community."

The Gateway is a great organization to get involved in at UNO. Any student can join by stopping in the office in the Milo Bail Student Center to talk to an editor or fill out an application online at unogateway.com/application.

Other alternatives include talking with staff members or visiting The Gateway's table during the organization fair on Thursday of Welcome Week.

The Gateway is a great opportunity for journalists to gain valuable skills in the field, Stewart said. They will be able to inform students on campus, which is The Gateway's main purpose.

"The main purpose of the organization is twofold," Stewart said. "On one side of the coin, we are to inform the students. We are [also] here to inform the community and faculty members at large."

Maverick Productions

KIRBY KAUFMAN
STAFF WRITER

When walking around campus the average student may be compelled by its emptiness during the summer. With Durango Days come and gone, what organization could the student body look to for entertainment?

Maverick Productions is a student funded campus organization that brings entertainment to the campus. They bring bands, comedians, speakers, contact agents and others to UNO.

"Mav Productions is there to always provide a standard of excellence in all of our programs," said Hope Vavra, director of Maverick Productions.

It all comes down to what they believe will truly benefit the students in a positive way, Vavra said. Maverick Productions strives to bring students performances, acts and voices they have never heard before. The organization also has brought hypnotists, improv troops and many other interesting figures to the campus.

Not everything is solely for entertainment, though. Maverick Productions also tries to bring educational events to campus, Vavra said. Sometimes they will bring someone to speak of issues plaguing UNO students.

The group itself consists of 12 positions. These board members are responsible for finding entertainment in their particular department. One person finds comedians the next will find bands and so on.

The board typically consists of students. Students will apply for the position of their choosing in the spring. Then the following fall and spring semesters these students will put in office hours to help with corresponding events.

Maverick Productions has several big events planned for this year.

The homecoming theme is "100 Years of Style." This is to focus on the changes that have happened through the past 100 years at UNO.

The homecoming dance will also be themed in a similar fashion. Different facts about UNO, trivia and other events will come to life during that time.

The Alumni Association's homecoming also coincides with what Maverick Productions has in store for the student body.

During Welcome Week, Mav Productions will have several surprises for the student body. There will be bands playing the first few days of class.

Vavra also mentioned a "big event" that everyone should be looking forward to, but the details could not be disclosed at this time.

They hope large events will liven up the deadened silence between studying and cramming for tests.

"We're students serving students," Vavra said. "We're here to make each and every student can make as much good as much of their time at UNO to provide the best entertainment that we can."

For more information check out their Web site, mavprod.unomaha.edu.

Comments?

Concerns?

Complaints?

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Sorority upset over 'House Bunny'

JAMIE BELL
STAFF WRITER

With the Aug. 22 release of Columbia Pictures' and Happy Madison's "The House Bunny," starring Anna Faris, comes some very distraught members of the Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity.

ZTA recognizes that there are a number of obvious parallels between their fraternity and the invented one, Zeta Alpha Zeta, portrayed in the film.

As can be seen in the trailer for the film, the dilapidated sorority house is shown missing a letter, spelling out "Z_TA" instead of "ZETA." In addition, the letters on the house as well as the letters on the T-shirts of its members are in turquoise blue, one of the official colors of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Fraternity officials are also upset about the consistent use of the word "Zeta" in the movie to reference sorority members, which is the common nickname for members of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Kelly Campbell, the president of UNO's Gamma Mu chapter of ZTA, said even

although the movie is a spoof of Greek life, they should have steered clear of using references to a real group, even if they just decided to call the girls "Zeta Alphas."

The obvious similarities – colors, nicknames and the "Z_TA" sign – between the "Zetas" in the movie and those in reality are certainly a cause for concern. The portrayal of Greek life in the film, however, is also a pressing matter.

Hollywood has certainly done its fair share of portraying sorority and fraternity life as full of sex, drinking and other questionable actions, and "House Bunny" follows these stereotypes.

In "House Bunny," the members of Zeta Alpha Zeta are misfits, unable to garner the attention that the more popular sororities do because of outward appearance. After their makeovers by their brand new house mother, a former Playboy Playmate, the president of ZAZ

(played by actress Emma Stone) justifies the change by saying, "Now, we can be the best versions of ourselves."

This depiction of "Zetas" as misfits, in conjugation with the fact that they appear to be based off of Zeta Tau Alpha members, seems to suggest that the true Zetas are outcasts as well.



Campbell stated, however, that members of ZTA nation-wide "are not misfits by any means. ... We are a very diverse group of girls."

In response to this controversy, the fraternity's national leadership has attempted to take action. In a press release, Zeta Tau Alpha National President Laura Ladewig Mauro stated: "We wrote a letter of protest to both companies but have received no response."

Campbell also noted that the fraternity is working on getting the term "Zeta" trademarked, which she believes is one of the reasons the group couldn't really take legal action against the production companies.

In any case, if your weekend plans consist of seeing "House Bunny," make sure to keep in mind that it is simply a work of Hollywood fiction, and – as Campbell hopes people remember – "sororities aren't really like that."

Make sure to 'install' these free computer programs

JOHN SANDQUIST
STAFF WRITER

Information Technology Services mission is to provide technological support to the faculty, staff, and students of UNO. ITS runs the university's computer systems, including everything from the Blackboard system to laptop checkouts.

ITS also offers many free software programs to UNO students and faculty. They are available simply by logging in at install.unomaha.edu.

Personal computers continually run the risk of being infected with viruses and software to treat or prevent them is often expensive.

One of the software programs offered by ITS is McAfee VirusScan 8.5i for Microsoft Windows. Comparatively, the company's latest version of VirusScan Plus retails for nearly \$40. That's quite a savings.

Apple lovers are not left of the loop, though. ITS offers McAfee virus protection that is just as powerful for Macs.

The ITS Web site has many more free programs available for download, and they are just as important as virus protection.

A personal firewall program, pop-up blockers and spyware and adware killers can be found. Basic, everyday applications such as Adobe Reader, multimedia players and the most popular Web browsers are also all available.

A Microsoft file converter is downloadable, too, which converts Microsoft Office 2007 files (including those with the ".docx" suffix) to work with older versions of the program.

For those who prefer not to buy Microsoft Office, ITS also offers a link to a freeware program called OpenOffice.org. This is basically an open-source version of the more popular Office programs such as Word, Excel, and PowerPoint – allowing those who don't want to purchase those programs a free way to access and edit documents.

The more you look through the free programs available from ITS, the more

impressive the list becomes. Tools like SPIDER and ERASER, which are designed to delete sensitive information stored on a computer, can be downloaded in minutes.

ITS affords to offer these programs for free by planning for them in their own budget.



Dean Hayes, manager of ITS customer services, said that although some aspects of ITS are funded by the technology fee: "As far as software provided, that is university funded."

There are many different programs that ITS could offer, but the decisions have to be carefully made with a tight budget. The process, Hayes said, is to look at the whole campus and decide what will have the biggest impact on the most people.

One of the ways that UNO is able to get good deals on software and university computers is by signing contracts with companies. The McAfee VirusScan software is a University of Nebraska system contract, so it covers every NU campus.

For more information about the install server, or for any other computer software assistance, call ITS at (402) 554-HELP. You can also visit its Customer Service Center in Room 104 of the Epley Administration Building.

Campus Recreation offers variety of physical activity

TODD HANSEN
STAFF WRITER

Former high school athletes and armchair quarterbacks will be able to get back in the game this fall. Campus recreation offers intramural sports ranging from flag football to Nintendo Wii sports games.

Last year was the first that Wii games were presented at UNO. Session one, which lasts from Sept. 14 to Oct. 16, features "Wii Bowling." Later in the semester, "Wii Tennis" will be available.

Intramural sports gives students a venue for friendly competition and an opportunity to play the sports they loved growing up. Many intramural athletes competed for their varsity teams in high school but campus recreation offers different leagues based on competitiveness.

Students looking to try something new can find a beginners league just for fun, or athletes looking for competition can find a more competitive league.

Some students might wonder why pick Nintendo Wii over Xbox 360 or PlayStation 3. Well, playing Nintendo Wii actually puts the player in the game. They have to emulate the motion to produce results while playing.

If someone is playing "Wii Boxing," they would have to actually throw a punch. In "Wii Golf," they have to swing the club.

"We did research and found they were health benefits to playing the Wii," said Mike Kult, assistant director of intramural sports.

According to BBC News, playing the Nintendo Wii could burn up to 1,800 calories a week when playing an average of 12 hours each week. In a study done by Liverpool's John Moores University, that kind of activity could lead to a weight loss of 27 pounds per year.

There have been obstacles in getting participation for the leagues, but Kult said the popularity is slowly growing. The problem, Kult said, was that they were not getting a great location to play.

Also, Wii is not offered for free during the week due to the expensive cost of the system.

"We are going to focus on special events that last one night to grow the participation," Kult said.

Like other sports offered, the Wii leagues would be five to six weeks long and a tournament would be held at the end. If a student is a beginner, novice leagues are offered so the competition is fair.

The most popular intramural sport is expected to be seven-on-seven flag football. Soccer is also growing in participation.

The winner of the top division in flag football will receive free entry into the regional tournament. That tournament is located at the UNL campus and draws teams from all over the Midwest. The top two teams from that tournament will receive a travel stipend to the national tournament – this year the competition will be held in New Orleans.

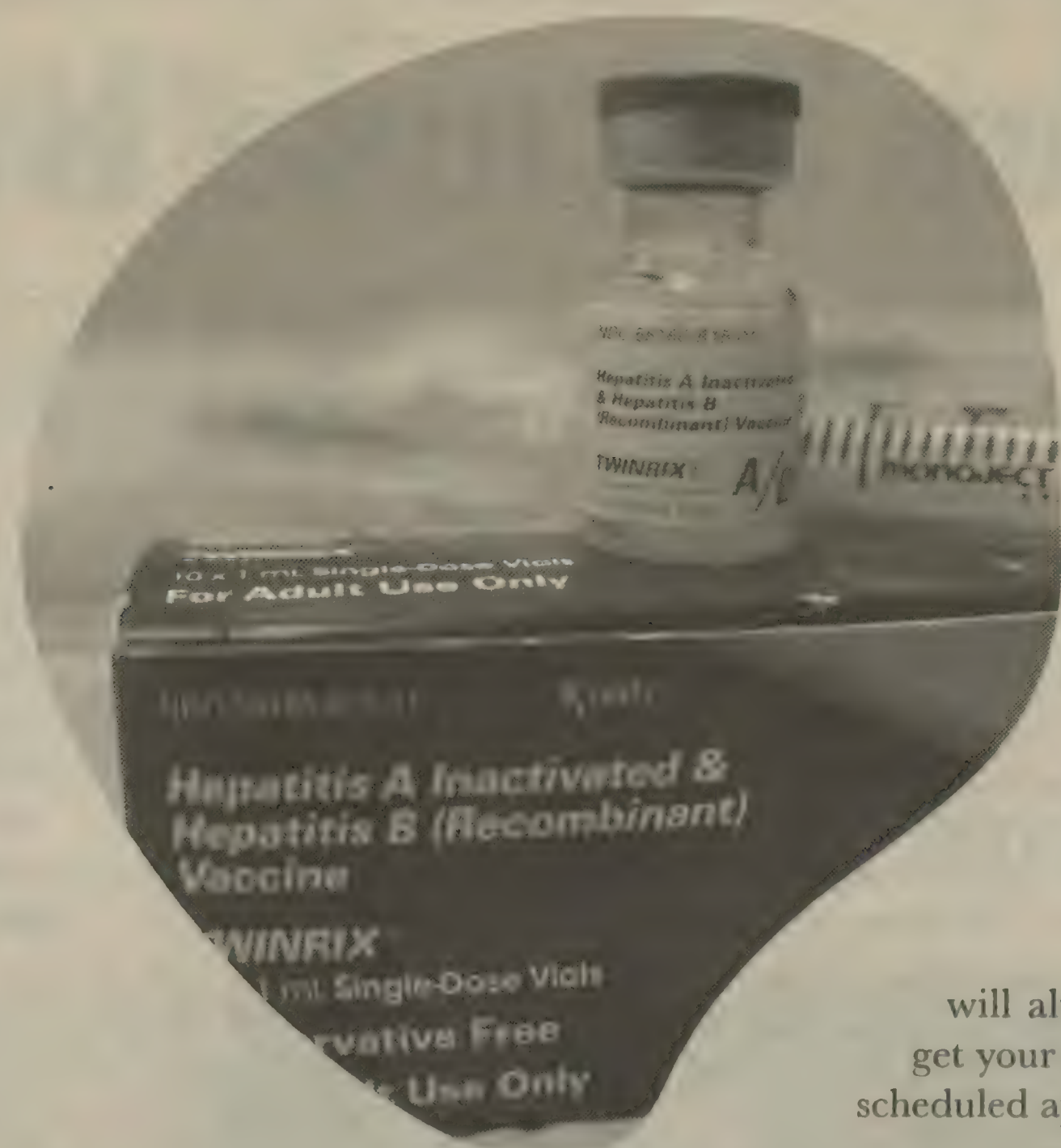
In addition to soccer, football and Nintendo Wii, Campus Recreation will have leagues in sand volleyball, outdoor tennis and three-on-three basketball.

A deposit is required to sign up for a league, but if a team participates each week they will receive all of their deposit back.

Any students looking to get back into the games have until Sept. 11 to sign up for the first session of sports. More information on how to get involved is available by calling Campus Recreation at (402) 554-2634.



UNO Alumnus Nicholas Hein climbs the rock climbing wall provided by Campus Recreation. (Andrea Barbe/The Gateway)



Student Health offers a variety of accessible, affordable services

SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Your student fees pay for a lot of things: Student Government, Campus Recreation, programming events, athletics, the intercampus shuttle, the student center and several other things. A portion of your fees goes to support The Gateway, too.

Another recipient of your student fees is Student Health Services, which runs a health clinic, manages immunization requirements and provides other health care services to UNO students.

Clinic

Marcia Alder, director of Student Health Services, says she has general medicine practitioners on campus 20 hours a week to service a wide array of conditions that afflict students.

"The physician visits range anywhere from general medicine to gynecology to psychiatry," Alder said. "Within that range of series, we see everything from people who need stitches from some unfortunate event in a classroom to people to have coughs and sore throats to people who have — you know, whatever the range of general medicine kinds of things that people have."

Psychiatry, which Student Health Services only began offering last November, is offered two afternoons a month. To get in to psychiatry, students are referred from Student Health practitioners or the campus counseling services.

To schedule an appointment, stop by their offices on the first floor of the Milo Bail Student Center or call 554-2374.

"Most of our appointments are seen on an appointment basis," Alder said. "If you're in a classroom and you get cut or something bad happens, you can walk in and we will see you. But if you have a headache or you threw up this morning or those kinds of things, a nurse

will always see you when you get your medicine, but those are scheduled appointments."

Immunization

All UNO students are required to have proof of two measles shots before they are allowed to enroll in classes. This applies even to students who were previously enrolled but have come back to UNO since it became required.

"If you're from the United States, the easiest place to get those measles shot records is from your high school — much easier, much quicker, much cheaper than the doctor's office," Alder said.

A medical information request form is available on Student Health Services' Web site to request records from your high school or doctor's office.

Students living in the dorms are also required to make a decision about whether they want a meningitis shot — it's recommended, but not required.

"That's the type of meningitis that every year kills about 300 college students," Alder said. "When [students] were little kids, they got a different meningitis shot, so this would be a similar shot but it's designed for older students at the college age."

Alder said Student Health Services offered the shot for \$105, a discount from most places in the community because the university provides the shot at cost.

Students co-enrolled in any programs at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and other programs, under new requirements, are also required to be tested for tuberculosis and have other shots. Student Health Services helps students get their shots in order, Alder said.

Services

In addition to seeing students by appointment, Student Health

Services also offers common medications for many different ailments.

"We do pretty much the broad range of the over-the-counter medicines people would want for headache, diarrhea, sore throat, anything like that," Alder said.

Student Health Services also provides free HIV and STD testing, as well as free medicine for treating STDs. Condoms — both male and female — are also available for a nominal fee.

Alder said that the STD tests that Student Health Services provides are through a urine specimen, so "it's not traumatic, it doesn't involve a probe [and] it's not embarrassing."

Other lab work offered by Student Health Services includes pregnancy testing, cholesterol and lipid testing, blood glucose testing and tuberculosis skin testing.

The office also conducts educational programming and is available to speak to interested student groups about alcohol awareness, contraceptives and other topics.

One thing Alder wanted to remind students that Student Health Services does not provide is writing notes for missed classes. You'd have to purchase a note in the community, Alder said.

For more information on Student Health Services, visit studenthealth.unomaha.edu.



ALL PHOTOS BY MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY

Students' credit card debt spurs worries

BY TONY PUGH
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON (MCT) — As the fall semester beckons and financial aid from parents and the government runs dry, more college students are turning to credit cards to pay not only for their textbooks, meals and transportation but also for tuition.

A recent survey by U.S. Public Interest Research Groups found that two-thirds of college students have at least one card, 70 percent pay their own monthly bills and 24 percent have used their cards to help pay tuition.

That helps explain why the average survey respondent will graduate with more than \$2,600 in credit card debt, and those with student loans will owe nearly \$3,000.

Andrew Kunka charged \$4,000 to his credit card several years ago to help pay tuition at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Now a first-year law student at Rutgers University's Newark, N.J., campus, Kunka struggles to make the minimum payment on the card, which is nearly maxed out.

"I feel like credit card companies target us because we really have no financial awareness," said Kunka, who's 22. "We're barely out of our homes, barely having experiences as adults, and they throw these things at us and they don't make you aware of what you're signing into."

Credit cards at college

A recent survey asked college students about credit cards:

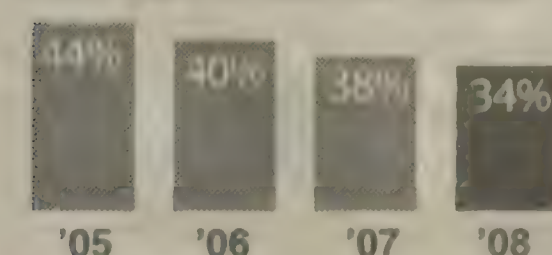
In a typical month

The average:

Amount charged	\$195
Number of transactions	6.3
Transaction value	\$31

Cards in their name

Percent who say they have a credit card in their own name



Learning about credit

Who has primary responsibility for my credit education?

Me	34%
My parents, family	30%
Don't know	16%
My bank	9%
My high school	3%
My college/university	3%
My credit card company	2%
Other	3%

Source: Student Monitor Financial Services Spring 2008 findings
Graphic: Judy Treible

© 2008 MCT

traffic areas on campus or the use of a school's name and logo on their cards.

Three hundred of the nation's largest universities collectively pocket more than \$1 billion a year on these marketing deals, said Robert D. Manning, the director of the Center for Consumer Financial Services at the Rochester Institute of Technology, in Rochester, N.Y.

The New York Attorney General's Office is investigating the practice nationally, but Benjamin Lawsky, a deputy counselor with that office, provided few details of the probe in recent congressional testimony.

"I think when those provisions in these agreements become public, sometime relatively soon, I think it will shock many people, the kinds of relationships that some of these credit card companies have with the schools," Lawsky testified.

The agreements are usually confidential and often require the school to provide students' personal contact information, such as telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and home addresses.

This can lead to a deluge of card offers. While most issuers frown on applicants with shallow earnings and sparse credit histories, college students with similar attributes are coveted as potential long-term customers whose earnings will increase with time.

So students face aggressive card promotions on campus, where they're vulnerable to a host of marketing tactics.

One company offered free rides in a bicycle taxi if students watched a video pitch for its credit cards. Others set up tables around campus and offer free T-shirts, movie rentals, music downloads, Frisbees and even food if students fill out card applications.

Experts say these temptations can make an already-difficult decision even harder for young adults with little financial know-how.

"It's practically impossible to be a decent consumer and have a normal thought process when you're staring at a steaming hot piece of pizza," said Christine Lindstrom, the higher education program director with U.S. Public Interest Research Groups.

John Velasco never had such conflicts. Velasco, 22, was a sophomore at West Virginia University when ads drew him to a promotion offering pizza to students who took part in a five-minute survey.

"The [ads] never said a word about credit cards," Velasco recalled.

It wasn't until he reached the front of a long line that he realized that the "survey" was a credit card application, and he couldn't get pizza unless he filled it out.

"I said, 'No way.' I'm not going for that. It was ridiculous," said Velasco, who now attends State University of New York's Albany campus.

Card industry representatives say that the vast majority

Mav Money site offers credit tips

For UNO students looking to learn more about credit cards and other financial information, Beta Alpha Psi has a Web site just for you.

MavMoney.com was created by the honorary accounting organization last year to keep students informed about the danger of credit card debt, the specifics of student loans, the fallacies of unnecessary car payments and other important material.

"The Web site was chosen for its more permanent and convenient presence," said Scott Bradley, the Web site's director. "It can be a slippery slope when financial advice is given. The Web site tries to stay on the path — non-biased and educational."

- Scott Stewart



Andrew Kunka charged \$4,000 to his credit card several years ago to help pay tuition at Loyola Marymount. Now a first-year law student at Rutgers University's Newark, New Jersey campus, Kunka, struggles to make the minimum payment on the card — which is nearly maxed out. "I feel like credit card companies target us because we really have no financial awareness," said Kunka, 22. (Christopher Barth/MCT)

of college students share Velasco's discerning judgment.

"Certainly there are examples of students who took on more debt than they were ultimately able to manage, but in the vast majority of cases, students are acting responsibly in meeting their obligations," said Kenneth Clayton, the senior vice president of the card policy council of the American Bankers Association.

In testimony before Congress, Clayton told lawmakers that credit cards helped cash-strapped students stay in school, build their credit histories and provide a financial safety net in emergencies. He said that imposing new restrictions on marketing cards to college students would hurt many responsible students who need them.

In addition to the two-thirds of college cardholders who pay their balances in full each month, the rest keep an average balance of \$452, down from \$559 last year, according to a recent survey of college students by the Student Monitor, a market research firm.

The survey also found that the number of students with credit cards in their names is declining because of the increased use of debit and ATM cards, that more than half of respondents had cards before entering college, and 82 percent thought they were responsible enough to have cards. However, 42 percent said they needed more credit education from their first card issuers.

Recently, U.S. Public Interest Research Groups student

chapters at 39 schools launched a "Truth About Credit" campaign to tighten card-marketing rules on campus. The groups are urging school officials to adopt a set of six principles for responsible card marketing.

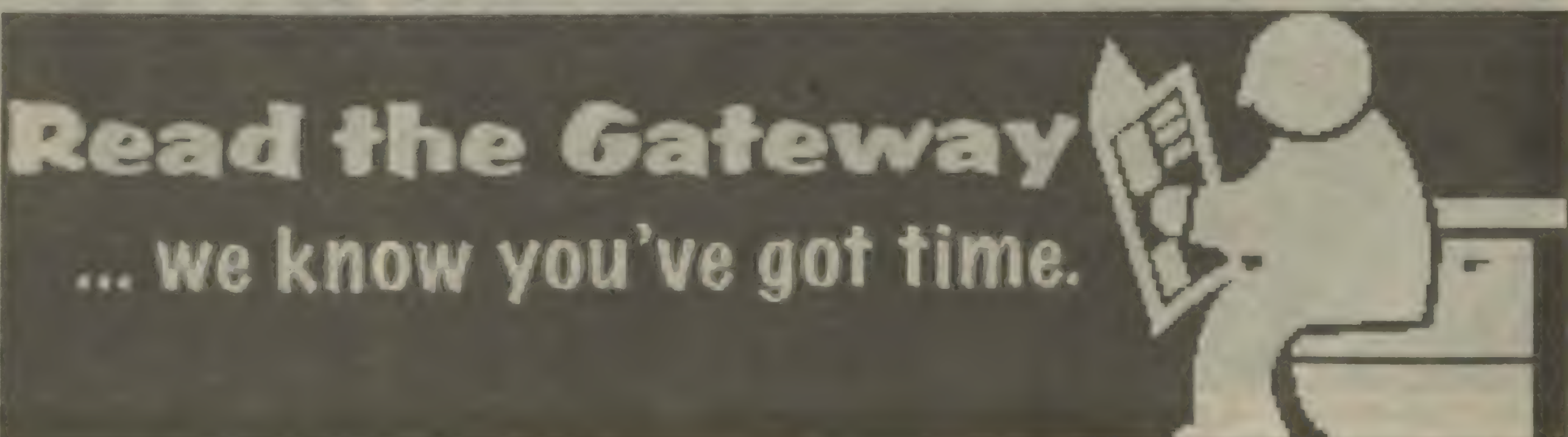
The principles call for banning gifts for filling out for card applications, requiring card promotional material to meet school posting regulations, increasing student financial education, forbidding card companies from sponsoring student groups and school departments, denying access to student contact information and discouraging credit card terms that take advantage of students.

Lindstrom said negotiations were ongoing and that schools might adopt some or all of the standards, which are supported by the National Association of College and University Business Officers, the American Council on Education and Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education.

On the Web

A report on concerns about on-campus credit card marketing: <http://www.uspirg.org/uploads/ym/ir/ymirZbG5OLxH2NPUxQENdA/correctedthecampuscreditcardtrapmar08all.pdf>

More information about choosing the best card for college students: <http://www.cardratings.com/studentcreditcards.html>



Fort Hays professor fired after mooning incident

JAMIE BELL
STAFF WRITER

Earlier this month, a video was posted on YouTube documenting the now recognized confrontation between Fort Hays State's debate coach, Bill Shanahan, and Shanara Reid-Brinkley from the University of Pittsburgh.

The argument began after Shanahan's team made the choice to remove Reid-Brinkley from the judging stand, a decision well within the debate rules.

According to a Fort Hays press release, Reid-Brinkley, a black female, declared that the act was one of white hegemony, or the domination of one race over another.

After a few words were exchanged, the two coaches began to fervently raise their voices, until Shanahan began jumping up and down and both parties shouted numerous expletives at one another.

At one point, Shanahan bent over backwards, pulling down his khaki shorts and "mooning" Reid-Brinkley. The nine-minute clip was viewed over 100,000 times on YouTube. It has since been removed from the site, but more copies have surfaced, making the amount of views uncountable.

Immediately following the incident, Shanahan states in the video, "I'm not ashamed of my behavior. I don't think I'm acting immaturely. I think I'm showing how much I care about everybody in this room."

Fort Hays State, however, thought differently. In an Aug. 22 press conference, Edward H. Hammond, the university's president, announced the university's decision to fire Shanahan for his actions at the debate event held at Wichita State University.

"If the coach of one of our athletic teams became angry and 'mooned' officials, student athletes and fans during a sports event, he or she would no longer be a coach at Fort Hays State University," Hammond said. "Standards for our debate program are certainly just as high."



Hammond did go on to praise Shanahan for his work as a teacher and debate coach, noting that he lead Fort Hays' national championship cross examination debate team in 2002. Shanahan also expressed hope his contributions would not be forgotten.

"I hope this incident does not detract from the incredible work done by Fort Hays State debate over the last decade or my other contributions to FHSU, which are far greater than a nine-minute YouTube clip," Shanahan said in a statement.

Myspace deletes profiles of sex offenders, Neb. considers law

KIRBY KAUFMAN
STAFF WRITER

MySpace recently deleted 146 Nebraska sex offender profiles from its site after pressure from Nebraska Attorney General Jon Bruning.

In some U.S. states, it is illegal for registered sex offenders to utilize social networking sites. Bruning stated that he is in the process of introducing a new bill this year that will apply the same effect in the state of Nebraska.

If the bill passes, Bruning said that online safety would increase in the sense that registered sex offenders will have a reduced chance of coming in contact with children online.

The MySpace announcement follows previous action by Facebook in May, when Bruning convinced the social networking Web site to aggressively delete inappropriate content while putting a hold on how users could change their own age.

According to Bruning's spokesperson Leah Bucco-White, one in seven children who use the Internet is sexually solicited. One in 11 is either harassed or threatened in one form or another.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children says nearly early 80 percent of solicitations occur at a home computer.

"That's why we must continue to be vigilant in protecting our children from online predators," said Bucco-White.

Often sex offenders are found to be

repeat offenders. Because of this, Bruning had enacted with legislature to pass Legislative Bill 111 in 2003. The bill increases the punishments and penalties for possession of child pornography.

"Those who view and trade child porn deserve harsh penalties," said Bucco-White.

It is important for parents to take an active role for the safety of their own children.

Suggestions include going on the Internet with your child, know who they talk to and even where they go.

Children and teens alike should

never pretend to be someone else, give our personal information, images or agree to meet someone on the Internet, Bucco-White said. Doing any of those things can lead to even more serious danger, and as the Internet grows so does the danger involved with it.

"Internet safety has always been important," said Bucco-White.

The importance of Internet safety grows with the size and power of the Internet. Bruning has changes for the future that he hopes protect the safety of youth surfing the World Wide Web.

Bruning's proposed legislation would make it a crime for registered sex offenders to use social networking sites such as MySpace, Facebook, Xanga and other networking sites.

Bruning also wants to bring sexual predators to justice by working with law enforcement. The continuous educating of the dangers on the Internet and ways to prevent it will additionally be strongly communicated.

"Education is the first line of defense against online predators," Bucco-White said.

Summer commencement: A time for celebration

JENNIFER DURN
CONTRIBUTOR

Commencement marks the beginning of a new chapter and the closing of another. It is a day of recognizing that dreams do happen.

The ceremonies occur three times a year for the University of Nebraska at Omaha, but it is always a momentous occasion for all graduates and their loved ones.

On the afternoon of Aug. 15, 275 UNO graduates proceeded down the aisle at the Omaha Civic Auditorium.

In addition to the disbursement of

degrees, Amy Panning, a native of Hooper, Neb., gave the student commencement address. Although she graduated magna cum laude — that is, with a perfect 4.0 grade point average — with a bachelor of science in social work, students will continue to see her on campus this fall as she begins her master's degree in social work.

"Giving the student commencement address really was such an honor and a positive experience I will never forget," Panning said.

Her closing thoughts simply stated: "Today our dreams and achievement mark a fond farewell to yesterday and a

warm welcome to tomorrow."

In another testament to achievement, the 147th Citation for Alumnus Achievement was presented to Sally Ganem, the First Lady of Nebraska. The award is presented during each commencement ceremony by the UNO Alumni Association's president Lee Denker.

The wife of Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman, Ganem is an Omaha native and a two-time graduate of UNO. She earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1971 and her master's in education administration in 1975.

Also a former principal, education

has remained at the forefront of her life with continued involvement over the years in various educational and community-based organizations.

As UNO's chancellor, John Christensen has continued involvement in the educational process. He said he looks forward to each and every commencement ceremony, as it is the culmination of the educational process.

"Commencement is the most special day in the life of the campus," Christensen said. "It is a celebration of the accomplishments of the students sharing the moment in time with their family."



Debra Smith-Howell hands Anne Herman her doctorate at the commencement ceremony earlier this summer. (courtesy Tim Fitzgerald/University Relations)



Gina Wagner waves after receiving her doctorate during the commencement ceremony earlier this summer. (courtesy Tim Fitzgerald/University Relations)



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Getting ready for summer: CPACS, bookstore

While students prepared for classes by purchasing textbooks at the UNO Bookstore, the university continued making last minute improvements on the College of Public Administration and Community Service's new building.

photos by Andrea Barbe and Valerie Loseke





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DURANGO DAYS BRINGS MAY MOJO TO FRESHMEN



Almost 200 incoming freshmen participated in Durango Days, an annual two-day workshop and orientation for new UNO students. The days were held last Thursday and Friday.

Students met with each other and heard information about college life on Aug. 21 (center right). Members of the UNO football team, including quarterback Zach Miller, pictured holding a microphone, spoke to the participants that afternoon (left).

Aug. 22 included a service-learning project, including cleaning at the Hope Center for Kids (above left). Students volunteering at the Omaha Children's Museum were let out early to play in the museum (above right).

Dan Erdman, from Springfield, Neb., pictured on the right, and Jason Hester, from Strongburg, Neb., pictured on the left, are shown above pretending to use magic to float balls midair while playing at the Omaha Children's Museum (above).

"I think [Durango Days] has been good. I met a lot of people. It's been beneficial for me to be here," Hester said.

text by Scott Stewart

top four photos by Valerie Loseke

center photo by Andrea Barbe

bottom photo courtesy UNO Athletics

Recycling: To sort or not to sort, that's the question

By H.J. CUMMINS
STAR TRIBUNE

MINNEAPOLIS (MCT) — The thought is a natural one for those going through the chore of sorting their recyclables: Do I have to do this?

It's a question that even recycling haulers can't agree on. And as recycled materials fetch higher prices, the stakes are rising as they compete for contracts.

The big national haulers, No. 1 Waste Management and No. 2 Allied Waste Industries are promoting a "single stream" system where customers put all recyclables — paper, glass, plastic and metals — into one cart. People prefer the convenience, so they recycle more, these companies argue.

Some recycling haulers, including Eureka Recycling in St. Paul, Minn., and Randy's Environmental Services out of Delano, Minn., advocate sticking with the traditional "double-stream" system, where households sort their recyclables into two groups: separating the paper from containers of glass, plastic and metal. Maybe the big carts increase collections, but all those materials get smashed together inside, making them unusable, they argue.

The disagreement resurfaces periodically, as local governments bidding out the pickup contracts get hit with both sales pitches. And last month, Allied Waste said it's sweetening the pot by offering store coupons as customer rewards, which it's testing in three markets across the country, including the Twin Cities. The more a household recycles, the more coupons it wins, redeemable at scores of retailers as varied as grocery stores, Ikea and Target.



Randy's Environmental Services of Delano, Minnesota, advocates a "double-stream system": one paper, the other glass, cans and plastic, which is sorted here at its transfer station, on Tuesday, July 29, 2008. (Glen Stubbe/Minneapolis Star Tribune/MCT)

York market rose from \$120 in January to \$200 this month, said Mark Arzoumanian, editor of industry publication Official Board Markets. Comparable increases on the recyclables spot markets have aluminum priced at \$2,000 a ton and plastics at \$440 a ton.

That has haulers working to increase their emphasis on recycling, and the payoff

of this year, City Manager Al Madsen said. Madsen believes both the convenience of no sorting and the incentive program might appeal to city residents, and encourage recycling.

And at least one resident agrees.

"The easier you make it, the more people will do it," said Kristin Archer.

And the coupons? "I totally think that when I'm considering whether to walk that tin can to the street, this would give me that little more incentive," Archer said.

Randy's Environmental Services just bet \$8 million on double-stream recycling with a trash hauling and recycling facility it opened last summer.

"The value of the commodities is better protected with the two streams," said Jim Wollschlager, operations director. "We just feel it's the better way of recycling."

The customers in Goodman's report agreed — the paper mills and glass companies, for example, that buy the materials from recycling facilities. They told Goodman they're seeing a dramatic increase in contamination — glass shards in paper and metal flecks in plastics — that makes the materials worth less, or even worthless, he said.

On average, the report said, two-stream operations lost 6.4 percent of their materials to contamination, compared with 27.7 percent for single-stream operations. The

buyers also told Goodman, however, a lot depends on the facility, with some single-sort processors just as clean as the two-sorters. Wollschlager estimated Randy's at 3 percent to 4 percent. In an interview, Waste Management spokeswoman Julie Ketchum put contamination rates at its two Minnesota facilities at about 6 percent.

Still, many see a future of not less sorting, but more. One Burnsville, Minn., household prefers more sorting. David and Mindy Limberg said they question how well their current single-source service really works. "It's easy for us, but I have less confidence all of it is getting recycled," David said.

In Wayzata, Minn., a Randy's Services client, residents sort "organics" — such as food scraps, pizza boxes and full vacuum cleaner bags — from their regular trash. City recycling coordinator Sonny Clark said Wayzata saves on dumping fees: \$15 a ton for organics, compared with \$50 for trash.

Minneapolis, which has residents sort their own recyclables into at least four groups — paper, plastic, glass and metals — earned \$1.6 million on its recycling program last year, said recycling director Susan Young.

"We were able to cover increased costs in fuel and personnel for 2008," Young said. "Water went up, sewer went up, and the storm-water fee went up, but the solid-waste fee stayed the same."



com.

Looking for advice, cities went to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency as long as two years ago. The agency commissioned a report, by Tim Goodman & Associates in St. Louis Park, Minn., but by citing pros and cons for each it resolves little.

"Right now, personally, I would have to give the edge to two-sort, in terms of the quality of the actual recycled materials," Goodman said. "But people still have disagreements, and they feel very strongly one way or the other."

Americans produce an average of 4.6 pounds of trash per person per day, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Minnesota is near the top of the states in recycling its trash — at 43.2 percent of its solid waste, it is second only to Oregon. Market forces may start bumping up rates everywhere, however.

Commodities prices for the materials bailed or binned out of recycling centers — to be remade into new water bottles, cans, and more — are climbing steeply, with analysts citing once again voracious demand out of China.

A ton of recycled newsprint in the New

is already showing up. At Allied Waste, for example, revenue from sales of recyclables rose 21 percent last year from 2006 to \$257 million, according to its annual report.

One sign of Phoenix-based Allied Waste's growing interest in the recycling business is the new RecycleBank partnership that it's now marketing in some areas. RecycleBank weighs the recyclables collections and awards store coupons to customers based on how much they recycle.

Popular coupons among customers include local grocery stores, saving families as much as \$20 a month on their food bills, said Ron Gonen, CEO of the Pennsylvania-based company.

Maple Grove, Minn., is one community Allied Waste and RecycleBank have approached, because its current recycling contract expires at the end





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UNO's independent student newspaper, The Gateway, is looking for student journalists to help expand our publication's coverage of events, issues and personalities of importance to the campus community.

Applications for fall staff members are currently being accepted. Open positions include contributors, staff writers, staff photographers, artists, columnists, section editors and art director.

Editors and art director will be hired on a rolling basis starting Sept. 7. All other positions will be hired on a continuing basis. Editors receive monthly compensation; all others are also paid on regular intervals.

For more information, please contact Editor in Chief Scott Stewart via e-mail at scott.stewart@unogateway.com.

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Starbucks jolt hasn't hurt smaller coffee shops' niche market efforts

BY RACHAEL BOGERT
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (MCT)—In an economy where the siren song of Starbucks' two-tailed mermaid has weakened slightly, independent coffee retailers are managing to maintain business, owners say.

The little guys are trading on loyalty and, because of that, store sales haven't dropped significantly and their core remains strong with a steady flow of patrons.

"People are loyal when it comes to coffee. It's part of their routine that doesn't change from morning to morning," said John Owens, an equity analyst with Morningstar.

As the Seattle-based Starbucks chain remakes itself with new products, analysts say consumers remain loyal to the brand, not a specific location. Independents, meanwhile, sell their independent-ness—the vibe of the local coffeehouse, its uniqueness and the product offered.

Chris Pendarvis owns five coffeehouses in the Sacramento area, including The Naked Lounge in Sacramento and Habit in El Dorado Hills, Calif. Repeat visits and

word of mouth are how they are able to maintain their business, Pendarvis and store employees said.

What makes people loyal to a smaller place rather than a Starbucks is quality and atmosphere that cannot be replicated in a chain, said Robynn James, the general manager of Habit, whose past is with Starbucks.

There are seven Starbucks locations closing in Nebraska:

- * 3811 Twin Creek Drive, Bellevue, Neb.
- * 610 East 23rd St., Fremont, Neb.
- * 4116 2nd Ave., Kearney, Neb.
- * 2012 N. 117th Ave., Omaha, Neb.
- * 6303 Center St., Omaha, Neb.
- * 1423 Papillion Dr., Papillion, Neb.
- * 8440 S. 72nd St., Papillion, Neb.

A complete list of Starbucks closures can be found at www.starbucks.com/aboutus/USStoreClosureInfo.pdf.

"People in Sacramento know good coffee," James said. "To a customer, our coffee is a swift kick in the pants. Get a good cup of coffee and it makes a difference in your day."

Customers Hank Floyd and John Turk were recently playing chess in Habit and each drinking a Kerouac, a chilled espresso and cream drink served in a martini glass. "Friends from school hang out here," said Turk, 16. "It's just a really chill spot to be."

At The Coffee Garden in Sacramento, owner Michael Madsen has a Rolodex full of customer names. "[We have] a pretty loyal

customer base," Madsen said. "So I'm not worried about this business."

The economy has affected his customers rather than a customer buying a coffee and a pastry, some get only coffee.

"People are just trying to save here and there," said Madsen. "But we do what we can with customer service and late hours to make up the difference."

Starbucks, too, is banking on loyalty to the brand as it faces economic stresses in addition to having expanded past customer demand without timely innovation of new products, according to Owens.

Owens reported a series of protests by customers who wanted to save their Starbucks that were scheduled for closing.

Billy Mongold of Sacramento was outside his favorite Starbucks after the store's morning rush had subsided.

When employees confirmed that the location was closing, Mongold said he was surprised. "This place is close to my house," he said. "It's really convenient."

He will soon have to go to "the Starbucks down the street" to get his usual venti white



Robynn James, general manager of Habit in El Dorado Hills, California, clears the steamer after steaming milk, on Saturday, August 2, 2008. James was previously with Starbucks and says the quality and atmosphere of a neighborhood shop can't be copied by a chain. (Lezlie Sterling/Sacramento Bee/MCT)

iced mocha.

According to Owens, 75 percent of all closing Starbucks locations are within three miles of another Starbucks. He said that when one store closes, nearby stores can expect a boost in sales as customers move to get what he calls their "Starbucks fix."

UI president Mason declines to support drinking age effort

JON LINDER
THE DAILY IOWAN (U. IOWA)

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Citing the need for a widespread change in culture in regard to underage drinking, University of Iowa President Sally Mason recently declined to support a nationwide initiative to lower the drinking age.

No single solution is sufficient to remedy the problem, she said.

Across the country, however, a coalition of roughly 100 college and university presidents agreed to support research studying underage and binge drinking in college settings. The group, Amethyst Initiative, suggested lowering the national drinking age as a possible solution to problems associated with college drinking.

Mason sent a letter to the Initiative Tuesday stating that she "salutes the efforts to bring new thinking to this serious problem." She did not, however, give her backing to the campaign.

"I believe that a significant cultural change is necessary to solve this problem," she said in the letter. "But I do not agree that lowering the drinking age would be effective at this time."

The contentious issue has generated support on both sides.

"It is a little excessive to make people wait until they are 21 to drink alcohol," said Leah Cohen of the Iowa City Alcohol Advisory Board. "It's created the current situation in which students are so afraid to be caught with alcohol that they will drink faster and drink harder alcohol before going out to get drunk."

Students grow accustomed to binge drinking in order to avoid a citation for possession of alcohol under the legal age, which damages reputation and has potential to hurt them when pursuing a career, she said.

While Cohen is in favor of lowering the drinking age, she is hesitant to support a drop that could allow high school students to drink legally.

"That's where you run into a problem," she said. "But I do think it's about time someone



UT grad student Justin Enderle and friend Rachael Kenney wait for their drinks Thursday evening at Cuatro's, a local bar close to campus. (Emily Kinsolving / Daily Texan / UWIRE)

took a serious look at this problem."

Jim Clayton of the Stepping Up Project, a local group committed to reducing binge and underage drinking, is opposed to the under-21 initiative.

"We stick out like a sore thumb when it comes to having the age limit for bars be 19," he said, referring to an Iowa law that allows 19 and 20 year olds to be in bars.

"That's a big reason our binge-drinking percentage is one of the highest in the nation," Clayton said.

"The lower the drinking age goes, the more the problem will trickle down to younger and younger people. It's a hard problem to solve."

In Iowa, only the president of Coe College has signed on to the initiative.

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VOLLEYBALL SHARPENS SKILLS,

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Top left and right - The Mavs held their annual Red-Black scrimmage on Aug. 19 at the Sapp Fieldhouse. (Michelle Bishop/The Gateway)

Right - Junior outside hitter Sara Kampschnieder (10) pounded 12 kills to lead the Mavericks to a 3-0 (25-16, 25-20, 25-12) win over the UNO Alumni Saturday night in exhibition volleyball action at the Sapp Fieldhouse. (Andrea Barbe/The Gateway)

Bottom left - The Mavs set up a kill during the Red-Black scrimmage on Aug. 19. (Michelle Bishop/The Gateway)

Bottom top right - Freshman Lizzy Mach sends the ball past two UNO Alumni team members. (Andrea Barbe/The Gateway)

Bottom right - Members of the 2008 volleyball team cheer while being introduced before their game against the UNO Alumni Saturday night. UNO opens the 2008 regular season Friday and Saturday, when they host the nine-team Comfort Inn & Suites/Firewater Grille Tournament in the Sapp Fieldhouse. (Andrea Barbe/The Gateway)



CORRESPONDENT NICK COMPTON OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA'S THE DAILY IOWAN TRAVELED TO BEIJING AS PART OF A GROUP OF 24 UI STUDENTS WHO VOLUNTEERED WITH THE OLYMPIC NEWS SERVICE. HIS DISPATCHES FROM THE GAMES WERE NATIONALLY SYNDICATED BY UWIRE.

Nick's Odyssey: Bolt's golden nuggets

BEIJING (UWIRE) Aug. 18 — The lights were bright, the air was cool and my ticket was hot.

Finally, I was inside the Bird's Nest.

For two long months I've stared at the iconic stadium's gridded exterior and wondered what strange secrets wait inside. Though my dormitory is less than 5 kilometers away, I remained as removed from its interior as any other Midwesterner. Until Saturday.

We international volunteers are treated too well. Somehow, our group of 23 University of Iowa students was awarded tickets for last night's track and field events at the Bird's Nest. They weren't just any tickets, either. At 10:30 p.m., one of the most anticipated Olympic events would take place.

It wouldn't last 10 seconds, but that didn't matter. The title of World's Fastest Man was up for grabs, along with millions of dollars in sponsorship deals. It was the final of the 100-meter dash, and the lanes were filled with the most talented sprinters on earth.

No finesse, no gimmicks. Just raw speed and pure acceleration.

The night's session kicked off at 7 p.m., with a host of women's middle distance events, men's long jump and women's shot put preceding the big showdown.

I arrived plenty early, expecting the crowds to be intense.

I was right.

The streets outside the stadium had become the world's biggest carnival. Small vendors sold cheesy trinkets and knockoff Olympic souvenirs.

Loud, confident Jamaicans drank beer on the street and heckled passing Americans. They warned blond-haired tourists that U.S. star Tyson Gay didn't stand a chance. Not against Asafa Powell and Usain Bolt, they said. (Gay, a gold-medal favorite, actually wasn't even in the final, thanks to a hamstring injury.)

Meanwhile, under the watchful eyes of ubiquitous security guards, an active scalping market roared with

constantly.

Our seats weren't bad. With only a gentle squint you could watch pain contort athletes' faces as they grunted through qualifying races.

But again, we international volunteers were too lucky. As Olympic News Service volunteers, we're given a slickly laminated press badge that grants us access to the Mixed Zones and press tribunes.

In the press tribune of the Bird's Nest, the seats were exquisite: dead center of the track, just meters from the track. If Usain Bolt burped, I could have smelled his dinner.

I settled into my seat, surrounded by some of the biggest names in sports journalism, and watched the show. I was in awe the entire time. While I couldn't tear my sights from the athletics, the journalists around me worked furiously, taking notes, making phone calls and checking emails — many of them seemingly oblivious to the torch roaring overhead and impervious to the magical pulse that pumped through the stands.

At the end of the night, the climax of the show, no one in the venue remained in their seats. When the 100-meter sprinters were introduced, the audience exploded in applause. Everyone jockeyed for the best position, climbing seats and stepping on railings in an effort to gain the most favorable vantage point. We all wanted to see history.

We had our cameras out, our shutters set on high-speed. We were ready for a world record.

And none of us were disappointed.

Usain Bolt roared out of the blocks, accelerating powerfully. His long, smooth stride seemed effortless. Eighty meters in, he was so far ahead that he danced to the finish and still beat second-place Richard Thompson by 0.2 seconds.

Bolt's time, 9.69 seconds, was a new world

record. The sellout crowd cheered wildly and watched the 21-year-old strut through a victory lap. He danced, hugged front-row spectators and kissed his shoes.

Only 10 rows from the track, I watched his antics in amazement and snapped a few photos as he wore the Jamaican flag as a cape and pointed to a scoreboard emblazoned with the words "Olympic Record."

Anxious to see the World's Fastest Man up close, I made my way down to the Mixed Zone, where reporters try to catch athletes as they walk to the locker room.

Predictably, it was a zoo.

An entire pen of pushy journalists, all elbows and tape recorders, were pushing and shoving, intent on grabbing one punchy quote to beat their deadlines. When the sprinters finally came through, they were mobbed.

Broadcast agencies and high-powered reporters got first priority. Most journalists were resigned to the far reaches of the waiting queue, and if they got to ask a question at all, it was answered placidly. "I performed well" or "Thanks for the encouragement."

The press conference next door, obligatory for the three medalists, was just as crazy. The comfortable, well-lit room was standing room only. Journalists from all over the world flocked to the conference with notebooks full of pressing questions to ask the new record holder.

Yet the event was surprisingly orderly. The mediator pointed at journalists in turn, who were then handed a microphone and given a chance to speak. No one spoke



Usain Bolt of Jamaica (2163), in lane three, wins a gold medal and sets a world record in the 100-meters on Saturday, August 16, 2008, in the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing, China. (Abaca Press/MCT)



Usain Bolt of Jamaica, left, celebrates as he crosses the line for a gold medal and world record in the 100-meters on Saturday, August 16, 2008, in the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing, China. (Jeff Siner/Charlotte Observer/MCT)

transactions. China's new class of capitalists made the most of this marquee event, selling nosebleed seats for astronomical prices. They waved the tickets high in the air, fishing for desperate foreigners with fat wallets. The going rate for a mid-grade ticket was something like 2,000 yuan, close to \$300.

I walked toward the stadium and soaked up the international flavor. People from every place on the planet were within a one-mile radius of each other, all bearing the flags of their homeland and wearing smiles on their faces. The queue to enter the stadium was long, and by the time I crossed the security checkpoints and found the way to my seats, high in the second of three tiers, the night's events were well under way.

The interior of the fabled stadium was impressive, but not all that dissimilar from a major U.S. sports venue. The hard plastic seats wore out their welcome quickly, the concession stands were mobbed with unbearably long lines and a beer cost at least three yuan too much.

Still, I was in awe. Above me, the Olympic torch blazed a deep orange. The stadium's roof was lined with flags from every nation in the world. All 90,000 seats were filled, and twinkling of flash bulbs lit up the place

out of order. No one asked untoward questions.

Nearly every query was directed towards Bolt. Most of the questions were straightforward and perfunctory: Are you pleased with your performance? Can you run faster? How do you feel about your opponents?

Bolt seemed bored. He kept his answers short, and between answers he chewed on cookies and twiddled his thumbs. He wasn't boisterous, but he exuded self-confidence.

"I don't know how I do it," he said. "I just like to have fun. I like to dance. I like to run."

When asked what the World's Fastest Man's daily schedule and diet is like, Bolt smiled.

"Today I got up around 11," he said. "No breakfast. I just watched TV for a while, ate some nuggets for lunch, then took a nap. For dinner I had some more nuggets."

The assemblage laughed. The fastest man on earth eats nuggets? He dances to the finish line and still cracks the world record? What would happen if this kid buckled down and gave a full-hearted effort? What if he has a rival to push him?

When I left the press conference, it was well past midnight and every taxi in sight was either full or out of commission.



Usain Bolt of Jamaica celebrates a gold medal and world record in the 100-meters on Saturday, August 16, 2008, in the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing, China. (Jeff Siner/Charlotte Observer/MCT)

See **BOLT**: Page 6-B

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Nick's Odyssey: Living the Dream

BEIJING (UWIRE) Aug. 19 — It's a classic feel-good story.

He's a fresh-faced 21-year-old with a hyper-aggressive wrestling style and a happy-go-lucky attitude, the product of an upbringing filled with adversity.

His father was a career felon, completely missing from his childhood. His mother worked herself raw, grunting through minimum-wage factory work to support her family while he fended for himself.

Luckily, Henry Cejudo found wrestling.

Cejudo made a name for himself at Phoenix's Maryvale High School, winning two consecutive Arizona state wrestling titles. The kid was meant to be a champ, and U.S. Wrestling noticed. They invited him to live and train at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

He knew his future was on the mat; the offer was too good to refuse, so he set aside college to train for the Olympics. From the beginning, his sights were set on Beijing.

He roared through the U.S. trials this summer, securing a place on the men's freestyle team at 55 kg (121 pounds).

And now, he is an Olympic champion.

Cejudo's performance Tuesday at the CAU Gymnasium was scrappy. His technique was free flowing.

In the first round, he barely edged out Radoslav Velikov, a tough, calculating Bulgarian who won a world championship two years ago. He won again in the quarterfinals, another narrow, comeback win against a Georgian named Besarion Gochashvili.

Up next: a semifinal date with Namig Sevdimov of Azerbaijan.

There was a decent group of flag-waving Americans in the arena for the semis, but they were dwarfed by the incredibly loud Azerbaijani fans who sat down near the mat. They roared in support of Sevdimov and assaulted the referee with loud boos whenever he ruled against their wrestler.

True to form, Cejudo started slow. He lost the first period 5-3. His coaches, Terry Brands and Keith Jackson, were furious. They were just one victory away from the gold-medal match. They could smell victory. Between periods, Brands and Jackson barked orders at Cejudo and tried to slap some inspiration into him.

Apparently, their methods worked. Cejudo came out strong in the second period.

Sevdimov, meantime, was absolutely gassed. He laid around the mat like a beached fish, too tired to attack, while Cejudo continued his scoring blitz. Cejudo took the second period, 3-2, and then in the third, used his superior conditioning again to top the Azerbaijani 4-3.

After the victory, Cejudo was calm and reserved. He smiled, but didn't dance around the mat or showboat.

In the Mixed Zone, he zoomed past journalists,

saying he would speak later. He had a job to finish, he said. He would wrestle for Olympic gold against Japan's Tomohiro Matsunaga, a precise counterattacker. No time for interviews now.

"After I win," Cejudo promised. "After I win."

He didn't let us down.

In the final match Cejudo wrestled brilliantly. This time, he didn't need time to warm up. He took the first period, and then, easily, took the second. He was an Olympic champion.

When the ref hoisted his hand in victory, the kid looked dumbfounded. He didn't know what to do. Should he cry? Should he stay cool? Should he find his friends and family in the stands and blow them a kiss?

After a moment, it all seemed to sink in. Cejudo threw his arms up in victory and circled the mat. He grabbed an American flag from his coaches, wrapped it around himself and paraded across the mat. He stopped in the center, knelt with the flag draped over him like a cape and let the tears of joy flow.

I watched the new champ from the Mixed Zone. My duty with the Olympic News Service was to interview an Iranian bronze medalist, but my mind was locked on the American's golden victory.

No one could have represented the United States better. He is the son of illegal immigrants, grown strong in a hard Phoenix neighborhood, unfazed by the Olympic spotlight. He dominated his world-caliber opponents, and now was a world champion.

At the awards ceremony, when the American flag was raised above the medals stand and the national anthem blared from the speakers, I put my hand over my heart and sang along. At that moment, there were no words to describe how proud I was.

Maybe Cejudo summed it up best at his post-medal press conference.

"I'm living the American dream," he said.



Henry Cejudo of the United States celebrates his gold medal in 55kg wrestling with a victory over Tomohiro Matsunaga of Japan on Tuesday, August 19, 2008, in the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing, China. (Mark Reis/Colorado Springs Gazette/MCT)

From **BOLT**: Page 4-B

Luckily, I wasn't tired. The amazing night had flushed me with adrenaline. I was ready to walk. While I strolled back to my dormitory, I called home and tried to explain what I'd just witnessed.

My words couldn't — and still can't — do the experience justice. But I was able to instill one grain of wisdom into my brother's ear.

"Invest in nuggets," I told him. "Invest in nuggets."

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Henry Cejudo of the United States, top, defeats Tomohiro Matsunaga of Japan to capture gold in the 55kg wrestling division on Tuesday, August 19, 2008, in the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing, China. (Mark Reis/Colorado Springs Gazette/MCT)

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Cinema City brings fresh art project, view to Kansas City

UNISHA KHAREL
CONTRIBUTOR

The streets of downtown Kansas City now have new flavor.

The chiefs of honor are Russ Nordman, an associate professor of intermedia and digital art, and Jody Boyer, an intermedia artist originally from Portland.

"Cinema City," their exhibit at the Urban Culture Project in Kansas City, brings the essence of an urban landscape through photographic and cinematic documentation.

The concept for "Cinema City" originated in 1929 in Israel. The idea then expanded internationally in the latter 1990s.

The architecture of American that existed and now lost due to developmental transformation is the main inspiration for the designs of "Cinema City."

The mission of the project is being supported by the Urban Culture Project, an initiative of the Charlotte Foundation. The installation's venue is Paragraph Gallery, located in a storefront display, once a common sight in American downtowns of yore.

The UCP was first launched in 2003 after the success when Petticoat Line and Main Street had a window gallery that promoted economic development through cultural display.

During the exhibition, the "Cinema City" will be continually changing with

fresh ideas, fun materials and thought-provoking performances. The core empty spaces of downtown Kansas City has been transformed into the dynamic art venues in the collaboration with the local artists.

"Cinema City" has vibrant sight with quality, challenging exhibitions of contemporary arts, live performances and has cross-disciplinary records. It has its artists on its residence on series of Saturdays, too.

The organizers maintained a blog at thecinemacity.com where, throughout the course of project, material about the exhibit will be available and visitors can also post pictures of architecture and buildings.

The exhibition started Saturday, Aug. 2, and runs through Oct. 4. The artists will be in the residence on Aug. 23, Sept. 6, Sept. 20 and Oct. 4. The gallery hours are open Thursdays and Fridays, from noon until 5 p.m.

Both Boyer's and Nordman's work has been shown across the country including at the Des Moines Art Center and Bemis Center for contemporary arts. For detailed information on them, visit jodyboyer.com and russnordman.com.



courtesy Jody Boyer and Russ Nordman

ARTSaha! returns to Omaha

MIKE BELL
STAFF WRITER

Omaha music festival ARTSaha! returns for its fourth year with guarantee of huge variety of sound to the metropolitan area.

In support of ARTSaha!, the UNO music department is teaming up with a group of musicians from all over the world called ANALOG.

The wide-ranging music festival takes place between Sept. 3 and Sept. 13, offering 10 days of concerts, music workshops and friendly interactions between composers and anyone — students and non-students alike — who are curious about how music is made.

Some events even allow students to compose their own music.

Robert M. Spire Professor of Music Kenton Bales said the events will be Omaha's only unique new music and arts festival.

"Last year we had a 17th century baroque opera performed but with contemporary uses of storytelling," Bales said. "This year we'll be doing a tribute to Karlheinz Stockhausen, who would be celebrating his 80th birthday."

Stockhausen is revered as the father of electronic music. "Set Sail for the Sun," the title of one of his songs, serves as this year's motto for the festival.

The mainstay event every year is the Iron Composer competition, a play on the television show "Iron Chef" but for musical composition, which takes place on Sept. 4.

Five students from the United States have been selected to compete. They will have random song elements revealed to them and will have to compose a piece with a given amount of time, which could be as short as half an hour, which will be judged by Bob Fischbach of the Omaha World-Herald. KETV's Rob McCartney will be master of ceremonies for the competition.

Sept. 11 will feature the Microscore Project, a violin-cello duo that specializes in songs lasting no longer than 30 seconds. (Finally, music that understands 21st century digital attention spans!)

Also featured will be the Monument Piano Trio working with ANALOG member John Klinghammer. The



courtesy Molly Fitzpatrick

corroboration will be called Dance Revolution! and the program will feature several contemporary works that are based on dance forms by composers like John Mackey, Paquito D'Rivera and Bright Sheng.

Another event throughout the festival will be several showings of "Transmissions from Outer Space" in the Kountze Planetarium, located in the Durham Science Center. The show features sounds recorded from the far realms of space.

Several events are free and tickets to featured events are \$10. Festival passes to all events will be available for \$20 or two passes for \$25.

The festival's Web site, artsaha.org, includes the entire event schedule and information about composers, performers, the Iron Composer competition and the Stockhausen celebration.

'Conor Oberst'

REVIEW BY
TIFFANY GANN
CONTRIBUTOR

One of Omaha's biggest claims to fame, Conor Oberst, spent a month last winter in Tepoztlán in the providence of Morales, Mexico, recording his newest record. Oberst's self-titled album was released Aug. 5.

But wait, who's this Mystic Valley Band? And why is the album on Merge Records instead of Saddle Creek? No more Bright Eyes?

Don't get your thrift store shirt in a knot, Oberst still delivers that folk rock and country sound Bright Eyes fans have come to love.

Dropping long-time label Saddle Creek and producer/multi-instrumentalist Mike Mogis, Oberst takes a more earthly approach to his new album.

Oberst self-produced the album with the help of Andy LeMaster of Now It's Overhead.

He has also enlisted a new group of musicians under the name Mystic Valley Band that includes Taylor Hollingsworth and Nik Freitas on guitar, Macey Taylor on bass, Nate Walcott on keyboards and trumpet and Jason Boesel of Rilo Kiley on drums.

If you love Oberst's political rants this may not be the album for you, as Oberst cruises through the tracks trying to make sense of the world, maybe trying to understand where

his life is leading him. In a laid-back fashion, Oberst starts off the album with "Cape Canaveral" with a reflection on his lifestyle: "Hey mother interstate can you deliver me from evil? Make me honest."

On the track "Lenders in the Temple" Oberst melodically sings, "There's money-lenders inside the temple. That circus tiger's going to break your heart. Something so wild turned into paper. If I loved you well that's my fault."

Although he successfully carries on smooth melodies throughout the album, his wobbly vocals famed from his previous albums try to push through.

Oberst quickly retreats from the shakes on the next track "Danny Callahan" with the catchy and sweetly sung chorus, "How are you getting on alone?"

The song, about a boy dying of cancer, questions whether love can be carried on. "Some wander the wilderness. Some drink cosmopolitans. Some cull science. Some clean astral planes. I can't tell where the canvas stops."

Following up "Danny Callahan" is the much more rousing and toe tapping song "I Don't Want to Die (in the Hospital)." Oberst sings for the dying boy escaping from the hospital.

Oberst belts along with vocalist Janet Weiss: "Help me get my boots on. Help me get my boots back on. I got to go-go-go, because I don't have long."

With possible influence from past collaborations with the likes of Emmylou Harris, Oberst produces an upbeat country sound on "I Don't Want to Die (in the Hospital)."

Track seven, "Eagle on a Pole," should feel nostalgic to any hardcore Bright Eyes fan. The melodies and instrumentation

is reminiscent of Oberst's acclaimed album "Fevers and Mirrors."

And in case you forgot the album was recorded in Mexico, Oberst offers lyrics in Spanish: "El cielo es azul just don't go telling everyone."

Next on the album, "NYC-Gone, Gone" satisfies all your hoedown needs complete with stomping.

Within 30 seconds of this song you'll find yourself chanting along: "Gone, gone from New York City. Where you going to go with a head that empty? Where you going to go with a heart that gone?"

Nearing the end of the album, Oberst plays on words in "Souled Out!!!" with the repetitive chorus, "No you won't be getting in (you know by now). All souled out!!! In heaven."

"Milk Thistle" finishes the self-titled album with a storytelling style. Simple and melancholy, the song is an appropriate ending.

If you were hoping Conor Oberst was continuing down the path that Bright Eyes' previous album "Cassadaga" was seemingly taking, you'll probably be sorely disappointed.

But for any other longtime Bright Eyes fan, you may find "Conor Oberst" a good addition to your collection.



Nebraska State Fair offers activities, shows for all ages in Lincoln

REVIEW BY
MIKE BELL
STAFF WRITER

For 139 years, the Nebraska State Fair has been considered a high point of every summer for many Nebraskans. This year continues the tradition of entertainment and display of Nebraskan culture for all to see and discover.

From Aug. 22 to Sept. 1, the State Fair Park in Lincoln will be rife with live music, horse shows, magic acts, beer gardens and much more.

The fair started off strong Friday. Some of the highlights include Figure 8 Racing, which features stock cars driving on a track shaped in an '8,' so crashes were inevitable and frequent.

Two-time Country Music Award winner Miranda Lambert performed to a packed Open Air Auditorium while over in Bristol Court were the OK Sisters.

Also held Saturday was the U.S. Senate debate between Scott Kleeb, Mike Johanns, and Steve Larrick, each of whom are trying to fill the spot left open by

Chuck Hagel, who decided not to run for another term. Each candidate answered questions submitted by reporters in front of fellow Nebraskans.

The petting zoo was row upon row of stalls filled with goats, turtles, lambs, lambs, sheep, cattle, pigs, horses and a solitary zebra. The State Fair's largest pig weighed over 800 pounds this year and was a bloated sight to see.

The Livestock Birthing Pavilion, run by the University of Nebraska's Pre-Vet Medicine Program, is an animal birthing area that was occupied by two sows ready to give birth at any minute, their owners only a few feet away for when the moment would come.

The air smelled of Pepsi as we walked between trailers selling every treat imaginable. It seemed that every other fairgoer had a turkey leg in hand. From staples like cotton candy and lemonade to even some foods bordering on the bizarre side: "pizza on a stick" was a new one to me and my xenophobic gut decided not to risk it.

There are many events still to come, though. Each day holds rock, blues, soul and country music at any of the three auditoriums.

A live haunted house is located on the second level of the grandstand and opens

every night at 7 p.m. Family contests occur daily with activities ranging from pie eating contests to ice-cream eating contests to even watermelon and Jello eating contests.

Another daily occurrence is the parade. Any who wishes to join in the parade are more than welcome to walk alongside as different high school marching bands blare their instruments. Each day brings several bands, along with county representatives, from all over the state.

The Bob Devaney center is filled to the brim with different vendors, from local leatherworkers to mattress salesmen. It is a bazaar of homemade candy, clothes, instruments, furniture, model trains, wall posters, wind chimes, lawn gnomes and much, much more.

Some of the acts this year include the Cavallo Equestrian Arts show, displaying skill and mastery of horse riding through

incredible stunts and choreography.

There will be a series of animal competitions such as pig racing and dog height jumping. Live geese will be dressed in human clothes and will strut around all eleven days of the fair.

Be sure not to miss Jim Victor as he creates what is sure to be another masterpiece sculpture ... out of a giant block of cheese. And, of course, clowns in undersized cars will abound.

Adult tickets are \$5 before 5 p.m. on weekdays and \$8 on weekends, Labor Day and after 5 p.m. weekdays. Children ages 6 to 12 get in for \$2, and kids 5 and younger are free.

Friday is Military Appreciation Day, so all of those with military ID get in free until 5 p.m. Parking is free once again this year.

For more about the Nebraska State Fair, visit statefair.org.



People gather to watch the Hendrick's Racing Pigs on Saturday at the State Fair in Lincoln. The fair continues until Labor Day. (Michelle Bishop/The Gateway)



Miranda Burchett pets a goat at the State Fair in Lincoln. (Mike Bell/The Gateway)

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A sow waits to give birth in the The Livestock Birthing Pavilion, run by the University of Nebraska's Pre-Vet Medicine Program. (Michelle Bishop/The Gateway)



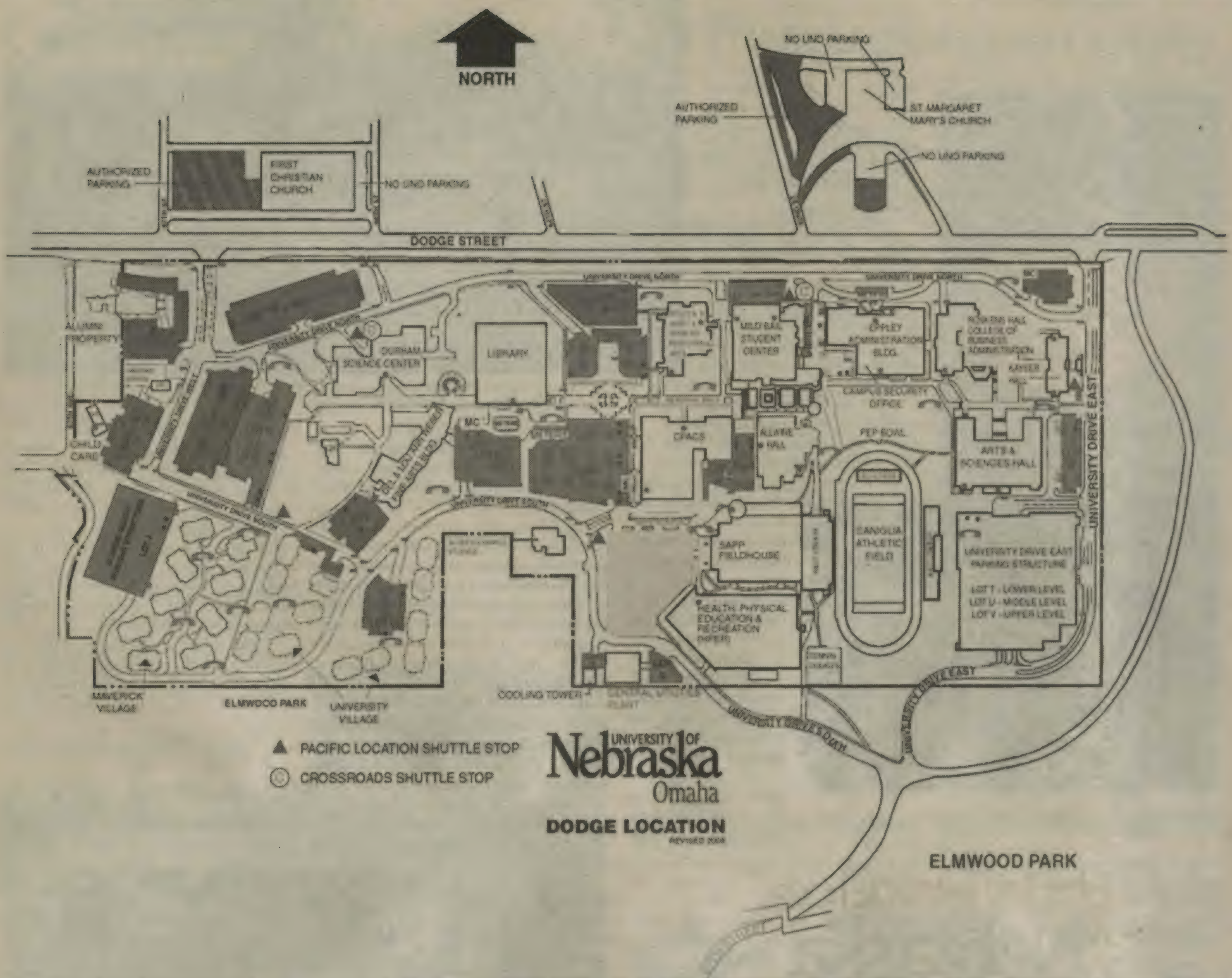
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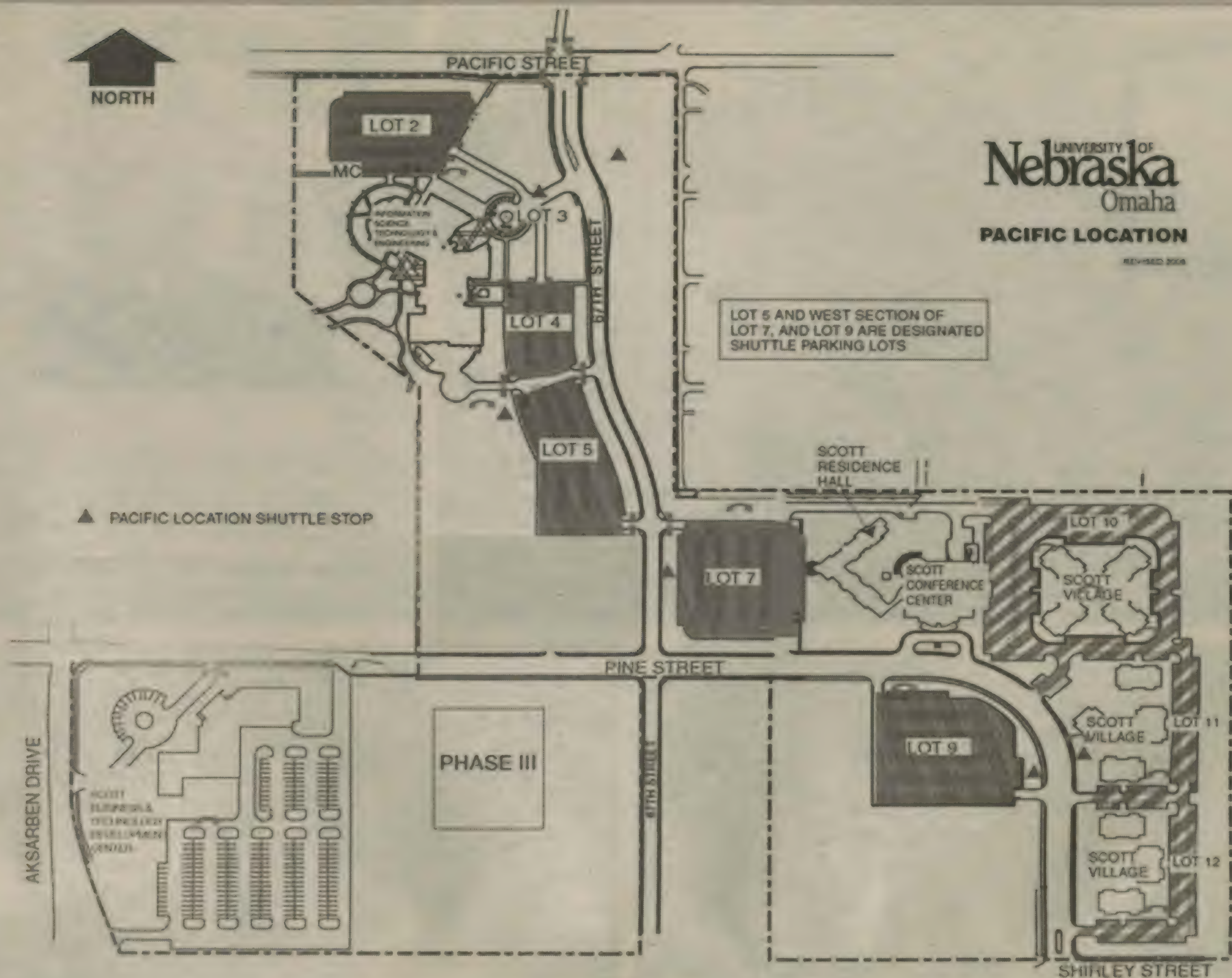
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The shuttle Busses load/unload in lots 5, 7 and 9 at the Pacific location

The Pacific location shuttle parking Buses will be marked to distinguish them from the remote parking Buses that service the Crossroads Mall parking structure

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The UNO Art Gallery is featuring the work of Rebecca Keller and Lanny DeVuono now through Friday, Aug. 29. The works are an exhibition of painting and mixed media that center on intersecting relationships with self, each other, surroundings and the history of society.

Keller's work deals with the image as a story, or multiple stories. She invokes the symbolism of collective human history to tell the stories of social problems and political injustices revolving around recent tragedies such as the Hurricane Katrina aftermath and the Iraq war.

DeVuono presents oil paintings from three series. DeVuono is interested in the marks left on the environment. She uses human influence on landscape to express our desire to contain, control and possess things we cannot. Her series of Large Romantic Landscapes are surrounded by black borders and ascribed with single words relating to land ownership. A closing reception will be held Aug. 29 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Top left - A group of Durango Days participants makes a stop in the art gallery on Thursday afternoon.

Top right - Rebecca Keller's "Bill of Rights."

Middle - Rebecca Keller's "Greetings from Iraq."

Bottom left - Lanny DeVuono's oil painting "Aerial View #5."

Bottom right - Lanny DeVuono's series of "Large Romance Paintings."

ALL PHOTOS BY ANDREA BARRE/THE GATEWAY





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COMMENTARY BY
MIKE BELL
STAFF WRITER

This Saturday, local residents set aside time to celebrate their neighborhood. Located at 50th and Underwood streets, the Dundee Day festival was alive with hundreds of people.

Local shops came out to the street to set up stalls filled with goods ranging from T-shirts to comic books and jewelry. Snow cone machines buzzed and balloons were twisted into funny looking, if not architecturally sound, hats.

The parade swung the day into full gear and was led this year by

local radio talk show host Tom Becka.

"They asked me to lead the band this year, how could I say no?" Becka said.

Roaming the crowd was Darth Vader with a pair of Storm Troopers in tow.

"We're part of the 501st Legion," said John Jaeckel, one of the Storm Troopers, his voice muffled behind the helmet. "It's a club dedicated to Star Wars fans, young and old, who like to get into costume. We go to anything - from science fiction conventions to neighborhood parties like this."

On the sidewalk, between a

stall selling purses with comical airbrushed illustrations and the Raising Awareness for Darfur, Hanna Ramsgard played violin, her case open at her feet with a small piece of cardboard asking for donations.

"I started playing when I was six. I'm twelve now," Ramsgard said when asked how long she had been playing.

Across the street from Hanna was Jerry Abdo, bobbing for apples in giant steel tubs filled with the fruit. Though he caught one, he would release it back into the wild. He was drenched from head to toe, his tactic requiring him to submerge at least half of his body to capture an apple.

Sitting near the inflatable jungle gym was Alvin Harper. Busying himself by drawing portraits of any who would sit in front of him, I asked him where he was from.

"I'm not from anywhere. My family has been roaming the Earth since forever, never claiming any one land and in return never having to wage war over it," Harper said while sketching my portrait. "You have a dollar? I haven't had a meal since 1927."

As the day wore on the kids went home and the adults came out to slake their thirst at Dario's Brasserie who had set up a European Style Beer Garden complete with live music.

Dundee Day is a fantastic chance to meet your neighbors. To those who did not attend, I encourage you to go next year for it serves as a great way to pass the day in this little historic section of Omaha.

all photos by Mike Bell



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Student determined to make animation her career

DONNA BIRCH
THE MODESTO BEE

MODESTO, Calif. (MCT) – Melissa Nichols Flores says she's a die-hard cartoon fan. And there's nothing Mickey Mouse about the college degree she's pursuing.

The 23-year-old wants to be a professional animator and is earning a degree in animation and visual effects at Expression College for Digital Arts in Emeryville.

"I dream of making 3-D animated movies, hopefully for DreamWorks or Pixar," Flores said. "That's a five- or 10-year goal – and to get as much experience in the industry as I can."

Flores took the saying "do what you love" to heart in choosing her career.

"Everybody loves cartoons growing up," she said. "I just never grew out of it. In my sophomore year of high school, I was watching Nickelodeon and the Disney Channel. And growing into adulthood, [cartoons] were more of a passion than just an obsession."

Flores, a Davis High School graduate who spent a year in the Navy, rarely leaves home without her sketchbook and Hacky Sack. She and her husband, Anthony Flores Jr., will celebrate their fourth wedding anniversary this fall. The couple enjoy fishing and spending time with their dog, Foxy, a Chihuahua-corgi mix.

Q: When did your love of cartoons begin?

A: I was always fascinated by them. "Peter Pan" was my favorite cartoon growing up, then it was "The Little Mermaid." I had VHS tapes of "Mighty Mouse" and some other older cartoons.

Q: What's your favorite animated film, and why?

A: There are so many. I might need to do this in categories. "Peter Pan" was my favorite as a kid. My favorite 3-D animated film is "Kung Fu Panda." It was an amazing animated film. I loved it for all kinds of reasons – its color, texture, the dynamics. It was visually stunning film. I also have to give a special [shout out] for "FernGully: The Last Rainforest."

Q: What are your earliest memories of wanting to draw?



Steve Kosko / Modesto Bee / MCT

A: I was raised by my grandmother Wanda Nichols. Growing up, I was an only child. My earliest memories are actually my grandma's memories. I'm left-handed, and when she'd see me drawing or coloring when I was little, she'd put the crayon in my right hand. I remember thinking about art in the seventh grade. But I was drawing before that. I'd color and draw and doodle around.

Q: Is there a style of animation you gravitate toward?

A: 3-D because of the amazing things you can do with it. You can make it look so real and work with in so many different ways. You can make your own cartoons or work for NASA creating 3-D images of space shuttles or use it in architecture. There are all kinds of things my major can lead to.

Q: You also do freehand art. Is it difficult to switch between that and using a computer?

A: It goes in and out. Some days, I'll be really into the computer, and some days, I'll go outside and draw. It depends on my mood. Drawing is a passion of mine, but the computer is the tool I use more.

Q: What artists inspire you?

A: Don Bluth. He was an animator at Disney who did "The Secret of NIHM" and "The Rescuers." I had the opportunity to meet him when he came to my school to talk. He was an inspirational speaker. Most of the speakers tell us about the industry. Don just started talking about life, being a good person and how much he loved drawing. I'd also like to pick the brain of Brad Bird [director of "The Incredibles" and "Ratatouille"]. In my industry, that is who I'd love to meet. But I also love works by Jackson Pollock and Salvador Dali.

Q: What do you like doing when you have free time?

A: A bunch of things. I love to play video games like "Rock Band" and I like to go the marina in Martinez (Calif.) and fish. And I'm taking up kayaking. I like watching movies. I'm a film buff.

Q: You've amassed a collection of tattoos. How many do you have, and did you design them yourself?

A: I have seven tattoos and I designed or adjusted five of the seven, like the San Jose Sharks tattoo. The tattoo is the team's logo, but I revamped it a little.

Q: What does your lion tattoo symbolize?

A: Lions are at the top of the food chain. They're dominant but also graceful and wise. I try to take on those characteristics.

Q: Do you have any personal heroes?

A: My grandma. She raised three kids on her own and then raised me. She's a very strong-willed and caring person. I dream to be like her, minus the worry.

Ultimate face-reconition tool is in our heads, researches say

BY ROBERT S. BOYD
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON (MCT) – Ever wonder why it's so much easier to remember people's faces than their names?

Neuroscientists have an explanation. They've identified a pea-sized region in the brain that reacts more strongly to faces than it does to cars, dogs, houses or body parts.

"The evidence is overwhelming that there is a specialized system dedicated to processing faces and not other objects," said Doris Tsao, a neuroscientist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

It's called the "fusiform face area," because it vaguely resembles a spindle – "fusus" in Latin. It's about halfway back in the head, near the bottom of the visual cortex, the part of the brain that handles vision.

Actually, most people have two FFAs, one on each side of the head, but the one on the right is dominant, the other a backup.

The FFA system explains "why we are so good at recognizing and remembering faces," Tsao said. "A brief glance at a face conveys a wealth of information about identity, expression, gender, age, mood, intent, attractiveness, social states and even honesty."

Researchers say evolution may explain why humans and other primates developed a chunk of brain tissue dedicated to face recognition – it helped them quickly spot friends and foes. Our ancestors who were better able to distinguish faces tended to survive – and reproduce – better than others.

"The ability to extract this information within a

fraction of a second of viewing a face is important for normal social interaction, and has probably played a critical role in the survival of our primate ancestors," said Nancy Kanwisher, an investigator at the McGovern Institute for Brain Research in Cambridge, Mass.

Understanding how face recognition works can have practical applications, Tsao said. Insights into these brain circuits may help prevent or treat depression, autism or social disorders. FFA images also may help scientists understand prosopagnosia, an impairment in the recognition of faces that's also known as face blindness.

People with prosopagnosia "are completely baffled why robbers cover their faces in movies," Tsao said.

Scientists identified the FFA a decade ago by scanning human and monkey brains with a then-new technology known as functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). When a group of nerve cells, or neurons, are active such as neurons responsible for vision – blood rushes to that area and it lights up on an fMRI scan.

"Blood flow mimics electrical activity," said Rebecca Saxe, a neuroscientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "We use

blood flow as a proxy."

In addition to faces, scientists have also identified separate regions of the brain that respond to body parts or to buildings.

"Just by looking at an fMRI, we can tell if a subject is looking at faces or places," Kanwisher said.

fMRI research is valuable, she said, because "it tells us what kinds of minds we have, and that is one of the most fundamental questions I can imagine tackling."



Functional MRI images light up pea-sized regions in the human brain that specialize in recognizing faces more than other objects. Usually the "fusiform face area" on the right side is active, but sometimes its left-side twin is called upon. (Doris Tsao/Massachusetts General Hospital/MCT)



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College culture list ages and amazes

ROBIN COWIE NALEPA
THE STATE

COLUMBIA, S.C. (MCT) — Pop quiz: Who's Johnny Carson? What was the Exxon Valdez? Ever use a typewriter?

So easy, you say. Well, guess again.

Touchstones most of us take for granted have little or no place in the pop culture lexicon of those born in 1990, like much of the freshman class at USC.

For 11 years, Beloit College in Wisconsin has published a list of cultural landmarks that resonate with 18-year-old freshmen and just make the rest of us feel really old (even though the college's Web site states it is "not deliberately designed" to do so).

For instance, for today's college freshmen, shampoo and conditioner have always been available in the same bottle. And Wayne Newton has never had a mustache.

Using the Beloit College Mindset List as a study guide, we took to the University of South Carolina campus — where classes began last week — to see what some students in the class of 2012 do and don't remember. The answers, well, they are sure to surprise you.

Like many of us, Sharae Moultrie, 18, of Myrtle Beach, S.C., drinks Coke from plastic bottles. She does, however, remember drinking the soft drink from a glass bottle — once — when she visited the Coca-Cola bottling plant in Atlanta.

At least she knew what to do with the glass bottle. A typewriter encounter didn't turn out as enjoyably.

"I tried to play with it, but I didn't know how to use it," Moultrie said. "My mom had one. Our computer broke; and she tried to get me to use it."

Sally Free, 18, of Raleigh, N.C., said

she never had used a typewriter but had seen one once at her grandmother's house. Oh, ouch.

New students milling around the Russell House and eating lunch on the patio said, sure, they had read some of the Harry Potter books, but they could offer only blank stares or head shakes when questioned about Atari gaming systems, Nirvana lead singer Kurt Cobain or whether to call the country that invaded Georgia Russia or the Soviet Union.

Bernadette Reimer, 18, of Oak Ridge, Tenn., knew the Exxon Valdez had something to do with "a leak or something." She remembered the commercials where a dish soap was used to wash oil-drenched birds and baby seals "up north somewhere."

Andy Bakker, 18, of Denver, Colo., knew plenty about Brett Favre, knew the elder George Bush was president when he was born, and pegged the "Summer of Love" as 1968.

Yet, Joseph Jamison, 17, of Aiken, S.C., was pretty confident the season-long hippie fest in San Francisco occurred in 1975 and "had to do with love or being free or whatever," while Meera Patel, 18, of Florence, S.C., got props from her friend for declaring it the title of a book.

India Wells, 18, of Bethesda, Md., was able to name several Supreme Court justices, including Clarence Thomas, who was noted on the Mindset List. Others, though, said they had never heard of him.

But perhaps the most telling answer of all was given by a young woman who shall remain nameless to protect the innocent (and young).

"Ever heard of Johnny Carson?" we asked.

"No — was he a president?"

Students entering college for the first time this fall were generally born in 1990.

For these students, Sammy Davis Jr., Jim Henson, Ryan White, Stevie Ray Vaughan and Freddy Krueger have always been dead.

1. Harry Potter could be a classmate, playing on their Quidditch team.
2. Since they were in diapers, karaoke machines have been annoying people at parties.
3. They have always been looking for Carmen Sandiego.
4. GPS satellite navigation systems have always been available.
5. Coke and Pepsi have always used recycled plastic bottles.
6. Shampoo and conditioner have always been available in the same bottle.
7. Gas stations have never fixed flats, but most serve cappuccino.
8. Their parents may have dropped them in shock when they heard George Bush announce "tax revenue increases."
9. Electronic filing of tax returns has always been an option.
10. Girls in head scarves have always been part of the school fashion scene.
11. All have had a relative — or known about a friend's relative — who died comfortably at home with Hospice.
12. As a precursor to "whatever," they have recognized that some people "just don't get it."
13. Universal Studios has always offered an alternative to Mickey in Orlando.
14. Grandma has always had wheels on her walker.
15. "Martha Stewart Living" has always been setting the style.
16. Haagen-Dazs ice cream has always come in quarts.
17. Club Med resorts have always been places to take the whole family.
18. WWW has never stood for World Wide Wrestling.
19. Films have never been X rated, only NC-17.
20. The Warsaw Pact is as hazy for them as the League of Nations was for their parents.
21. Students have always been "Rocking the Vote."
22. Clarence Thomas has always sat on the Supreme Court.
23. Schools have always been concerned about multiculturalism.
24. We have always known that "All I Ever Really Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten."
25. There have always been gay rabbis.
26. Wayne Newton has never had a mustache.
27. College grads have always been able to Teach for America.
28. IBM has never made typewriters.
29. Roseanne Barr has never been invited to sing the National Anthem again.
30. McDonald's and Burger King have always used vegetable oil for cooking french fries.
31. They have never been able to color a tree using a raw umber Crayola.
32. There has always been Pearl Jam.
33. The Tonight Show has always been hosted by Jay Leno and started at 11:35 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.
34. Pee-Wee has never been in his playhouse during the day.
35. They never tasted Benefit Cereal with psyllium.
36. They may have been given a Nintendo Game Boy to play with in the crib.
37. Authorities have always been building a wall across the Mexican border.
38. Lenin's name has never been on a major city in Russia.
39. Employers have always been able to do credit checks on employees.
40. Balsamic vinegar has always been available in the U.S.
41. Macaulay Culkin has always been "Home Alone."
42. Their parents may have watched "The American Gladiators" on TV the day they were born.
43. Personal privacy has always been threatened.
44. Caller ID has always been available on phones.
45. Living wills have always been asked for at hospital check-ins.
46. The Green Bay Packers (almost) always had the same starting quarterback.
47. They never heard an attendant ask, "Want me to check under the hood?"
48. Iced tea has always come in cans and bottles.
49. Soft drink refills have always been free.
50. They have never known life without Seinfeld references from a show about "nothing."
51. Windows 3.0 operating system made IBM PCs user-friendly the year they were born.
52. Muscovites have always been able to buy Big Macs.
53. The Royal New Zealand Navy has never been permitted a daily ration of rum.
54. The Hubble Space Telescope has always been eavesdropping on the heavens.
55. 98.6 F or otherwise has always been confirmed in the ear.
56. Michael Milken has always been a philanthropist promoting prostate cancer research.
57. Off-shore oil drilling in the United States has always been prohibited.
58. Radio stations have never been required to present both sides of public issues.
59. There have always been charter schools.
60. Students always had "Goosebumps."



For college freshmen, Harry Potter is just a part of life

ANDREW YOUNG
UWIRE

For most of the freshmen entering their first year of college this fall, Harry Potter, Pearl Jam and caller ID have been with them almost since day one.

These are part of the 60 cultural, political and social landmarks that make up this year's Mindset List, compiled and released every August by Beloit College. Humans and English professor Tom McBride and Director of Public Affairs Ron Nief collaborate on developing suggestions and finalizing each year's list.

The list began as a way for professors at

Beloit — a small college in Wisconsin — to keep track of what references incoming 18-year-old freshmen would and wouldn't understand.

In the 11 years since, it has grown to become its own time capsule — giving a glimpse of how the nation and the world has changed in the past 18 years.

"Of course, our students come from many backgrounds and different traditions and these generalizations may not apply to all," Ron Nief and Tom McBride, the faculty members who maintain the list, wrote on the list's Web site. "The list identifies the experiences and event horizons of students and is not meant to reflect on their preparatory education."

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6. Assisting with the research in the psychological research lab at the UNMC Monroe Meyer Institute
7. Preparing an article on the black experience for publication
8. Serving on mission projects sponsored by Impact Movement
9. Preparing to serve as a student representative on the Department of Psychology's Undergraduate Program Committee
10. Giving an extemporaneous speech in a national speech competition

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The 139th annual State Fair held in Lincoln continues until Sept. 1. In addition to the Midway, the fair also offers free nightly concerts with the purchase of gate admission. The classic rock band Styx will close festivities with a 7 p.m. concert on Labor Day (Michelle Bishop/The Gateway)




Bo, a Yellow Lab belonging to Stacy Henderson of Abilene, KS, leaps 6 feet 6 inches during a DockDogs competition at the State Fair on Saturday. (Michelle Bishop/The Gateway)

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From *LIFE*: Page 16

It is also not deliberately designed to make readers feel really old!

Some of notable inclusions on the list, based on a student born in 1990, are

"1. Harry Potter could be a classmate, playing on their Quidditch team."

"18. WWW has never stood for World Wide Wrestling."

"29. Roseanne Barr has never been invited to sing the National Anthem again."

"39. They may have been given a Nintendo Game Boy to play with in the crib."

"44. Caller ID has always been available on phones."

"51. Windows 3.0 operating system made IBM PCs user-friendly the year they were born."

Among things they wouldn't recognize — except for in history books — are the Warsaw Pact, the Johnny Carson Show and Leningrad.

Lists for college classes since 2002 are available online at <http://www.beloit.edu/mindset> — meaning that the class of 2020 will be the first class to always have the Mindset List to cue them in on the mindset of 18 year olds.

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Welcome Week

The University of Nebraska at Omaha tries to go out of its way to make sure that students feel comfortable and aware of what opportunities are available to them when they enroll here.

Freshmen orientation introduce students to “UNO 101” (or maybe we should say “UNO 1010?”) and help make sure they know where the various buildings are on campus, what services are available and give them a chance to meet some fellow students.

Durango Days, the university’s recent addition to orientation, provides an opportunity to further get to know UNO and form real bonds with future classmates while participating in a service learning activity, and – if you’re lucky – perhaps play with some pneumatic tubes at the Omaha Children’s Museum.

Some of the larger scholarship programs try to make sure their students are given special attention, by having back-to-school meetings. The Thompson Scholar and Scott Scholar programs also match students with upperclassman mentors to give them another chance to ask questions.

The Gateway tries to get involved, too, with our annual “Guide to UNO” issue being mailed to incoming freshmen and transfer students. In it, we try to highlight some of the important things about campus. (Copies of it are likely still available in our newsstands now, too.)

The *cream de la crème* of the welcome back

activities, though, has to be Welcome Week. Held each day in the Maverick Plaza, the area just outside the south doors of the Milo Bail Student Center, Welcome Week offers free food, live music, activities and a chance to learn more about what UNO has to offer.

For instance, today’s theme is academic excellence, and representatives of various campus units will be on hand to discuss UNO academics from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Additionally, the band Prairie Dogs will perform while jousting, basketball, caricature drawings and photos will be offered in the Maverick Plaza. Hot dogs, chips and drinks will also be given away starting at 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, however, is the culmination of Welcome Week with the annual clubs and organizations fair. During the fair, students are able to peruse a cross-section of university groups to find out which ones they might want to get involved with.

Many student leaders found their niche by wandering the Welcome Week organization fair. The Gateway’s editor in chief, for instance, first got involved with the publication after a chance encounter with The Gateway’s news editor during his freshman year. He still has the business card he got that Thursday afternoon.

For those who want to get involved, the organization fair is a must-attend event. On the whole, Welcome Week is also a great way to learn more about campus and the myriad of opportunities available at UNO.

And, besides that, what self-respecting college student is going to pass up a free lunch?

Maverick Village

Welcome Week this year won’t just be greeting this year’s incoming freshmen class.

Also arriving on campus is Maverick Village, a brand-new eight building housing complex, and its adjacent four-story parking garage on the Dodge Street campus.

MV is the fourth housing project at UNO, with the university’s first dorms, University Village, opening their doors in August 1999. Scott Village followed with more apartment-style dorms in August 2003. Scott Residence Hall, the first Pacific Street campus housing building, opened in 2000.

Student housing at UNO has been central to the university’s attempts to disassociate itself with its old image as a commuter campus. The dorms, and the students living in them, are essential to creating a full-fledged metropolitan institution.

It is our hope that MV will join UV, Scott Hall and SV in helping the university achieve that dream.

Additionally, the future construction of Mammel Hall, a new home for the College of Business Administration, will help to provide another anchor, in addition to the Peter Kiewit Institute, in the university’s push southwards through Elmwood Park.

Other projects – such as the College of Public Administration and Community Service Building and the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building renovation – will also help to provide a solid physical foundation for the university.

Achievements like UNO’s No. 1 ranking for academic value on the Collegiate Learning Assessment will continue to provide an intellectual basis for the institution.

Already, with the Aksarben Village developments on the Pacific Street campus possibly providing a quasi-college town adjacent to campus, with developments on the Center Street campus (formally the Chili Greens golf course) and with the administrative shuffling of the last couple years, the future seems closer.

As UNO celebrates its centennial anniversary, too, the future seems even more exciting than the past successes of the institution.

Overall, it’s an exciting time to be a Maverick. It’s our hope that our fellow UNO students will join us this semester in looking back at the history of this great institution and looking forward to what’s yet to come.

In the midst of all that, we also hope our classmates will try, as we are trying, to leave a mark on this institution, too. After all, bricks and mortar – and even mortarboards – are useless without the student successes that provide them with meaning.

It’s not easy being green Keggers: yea or nay? Remember to weigh options

When it comes to campus ecology, the University of Nebraska is flunking out.

When the National Wildlife Federation conducted a survey of U.S. colleges and universities in 2001, UNO was rated among the most environmentally friendly schools. In a similar study this year, we have dropped off the list altogether.

In fact, of the 10 schools in Nebraska that participated in the survey, only one college made the grade: Chadron State College.

What’s changed between the 2001 and 2008?

Perhaps we have a new set of standards. Climate change has been brought to the forefront of the world consciousness in recent years, becoming one of the hottest topics of the decade. As with any problem that needs fixing, environmental issues have been constantly re-examined and new approaches have been taken to address it.

Social Distortion



Kristin Phillips

Maintaining the status quo is not sufficient. We must constantly be moving forward.

It is not only the University of Nebraska that is lacking in progress. Colleges all across the United States seem to be driving in reverse. While the number of “green” campuses has grown in the last seven years, the detrimental impacts of campus commuting have

yet to be addressed.

Additionally, the number of schools offering majors or minors in environmental or sustainability studies has decreased by approximately 17 percent. If education is not at the core of creating a greener future, then what is?

In the face of climate change and a potential energy crisis, we cannot afford to relax our environmental policies. We must constantly be stepping up and working towards a better future – for ourselves and for our planet.

It is our responsibility, both as students and as residents of this world, to educate ourselves about the challenges we are facing. We need to learn how to adapt

The kegger is integral to the college experience, according to movies and anecdotal stories heard from graduates. They seem to be as synonymous with college life as going to class or buying textbooks. Intoxicated people, sloppy dancing, empty plastic cups and loud music characterize drinking parties.

Whether to participate in keggers is a decision every student must make for himself or herself, and it should be made like any other decision: after carefully reviewing the pros and cons.

One reason many go to drinking parties is to develop social connections and networks. At a good party, it’s easy to meet many new people and to forge new friendships. The fun and camaraderie found at a party often takes the form of foosball games, drinking championships and beersbee.

It can also be a stress reliever for many to unwind at a kegger by getting hammered after a hard week of work and school.

Chains Removed



Mark Patel

Getting hooked-up is a major priority for many college students, and there’s no better place than a kegger to do exactly that. However, short-term relationships might not be the smartest thing to do in a town with a gonorrhea rate 50 percent higher than the rest of the country.

Another downside of one-night stands is the stress experienced afterwards. There is emotional baggage that a person carries wherever

they go, not to mention the bad reputation gained from such relationships.

You might even enter into a cycle of going to parties to escape from the stress that parties cause.

Drinking is illegal for many college students, and legal trouble for distributing alcohol to minors can result even if you are of age. Being intoxicated on campus is also prohibited, a particularly important consideration if you live in the dorms.

Illegality isn’t the biggest reason for not drinking; however, it’s how alcohol affects the other aspects of a person’s life. Parties can be distracting and cause a student to lose focus on their academics, and in many cases, to drop out of college entirely.

The social networks that a person forms by going to

parties are temporary and unreliable. The hunger that each human being has for finding friends and having fun can be satisfied through other means such as joining clubs and organizations on campus.

Whether or not to go to social gatherings with alcohol is really a life and death decision. As alarming as it is, 500 people are killed each week from alcohol-related crashes.

Even with the negative consequences listed above, some people are willing to take those risks to not miss out on any “fun.”

If you make partying your priority, you might miss out on the real college experience, which is finding your identity. In the chaos of getting hammered, you will lose sight of perhaps something even more important than your education: yourself.

Parking woes cause frustration, but some hope yet remains

Parking. It's the perennial problem here at UNO, and one of the more annoying issues at college campuses across the country.

For years, the Office of Institutional Research has reported that graduating students cite parking as their No. 1 concern on campus. Surely, this summer's graduates must have given that response, too.

The last year has been particularly nasty to park on the Dodge Street campus, with construction and lot closings squeezing the already tight parking. The construction of Maverick Village cannibalized a large student lot near Durham Science Center, too, making it difficult to make it to an early afternoon – say nothing about a morning class – in that building.

The Crossroads shuttle service also suffered setbacks, with the management company Simon Property Group Inc. deliberately and without remorse deciding to delay the renewal of a contract, only to price gauge the university – to the order of \$3,000 a day, up from \$127 a day – when we finally did have to sign the one-year renewal.

The steady increase in the cost of a parking permit (\$106) and last-year's garage access price hike (\$2 instead of \$1) don't really help students' wallets, either. Although in the university's defense, they have to pay more for everything in

this recession, too, and the specter of budget cuts are never really out of mind.

Still, there's some reason to hope that the parking situation will improve – after a while longer, that is.

The completion of Maverick Village introduces a brand-new four-story parking structure on campus, which will hopefully help to alleviate some of the parking concerns near the Dodge Street campus dorms. It will also return that missed parking lot to the Durham Science Center crowd.

Although construction will claim parking stalls near the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building as well as one of the shuttle lots on the Pacific Street campus, those projects will also contribute to solving UNO's parking problem.

Mammel Hall, the future home of the College of Business Administration, will help to shift some students to attending classes at the Pacific Street campus –

freeing up parking some at the Dodge Street campus while providing some flexibility in scheduling.

The HPER Building renovation, too, will net a small gain in parking stalls near the heart of the Dodge Street campus. At this point, every little bit helps.

In the longer term, the university's efforts to develop the Center Street campus, the property formerly home to the Chili Greens golf course, should provide a cost-effective way to get away from the Crossroads rip-off while providing enough parking spaces for everyone coming to campus.

Additional dorms at the Center Street campus, and possibly some additions to the existing residences on the Pacific Street campus, will also help to shift the student population to one that doesn't require as many cars to get around.

The Aksarben Village

development (and, I hate to admit it, probably the Wal-Mart up the street) will also – I hope – provide a quasi-college town environment for UNO students. That will also help the possibility of not bringing a car to college make more sense to future generations of Mavericks.

In the mean time, though, there are some things that you can do to help combat parking frustration.

First and foremost is the obvious solution: plan to come to campus early, so you can hunt for a parking space. Nothing is more frustrating than being late and finding out that Campus Security has closed off your favorite parking lot that day.

Second, learn when you are allowed to park in certain lots. For instance, the Strauss Performing Arts Center faculty lot has a sign allowing students to park there after 1:30 p.m. on weekdays and anytime on weekends. Many lots on campus have similar flexibility.

Third, spend some time to determine which lots are underutilized when you have to be on campus. The overflow parking at St. Margaret Mary's church, for instance, is often vacant even when the Milo Bail Student Center's parking is overflowing.

Fourth, make use of the parking garage by the Arts and Sciences Hall if you can. Yes, I know it costs a little extra, but at least for me the cost is worth the lack of headaches when you're five minutes late to a lecture.

Fifth, resist the temptation to break the parking rules – save that for when there's no other option. Campus Security will, more than likely, write you a ticket if you park where there isn't a parking space. And, although you might get away with taking down your permit to avoid being associated with a ticket, if you do try to beat the system, the likelihood is a couple hundred dollar fine will hunt you down.

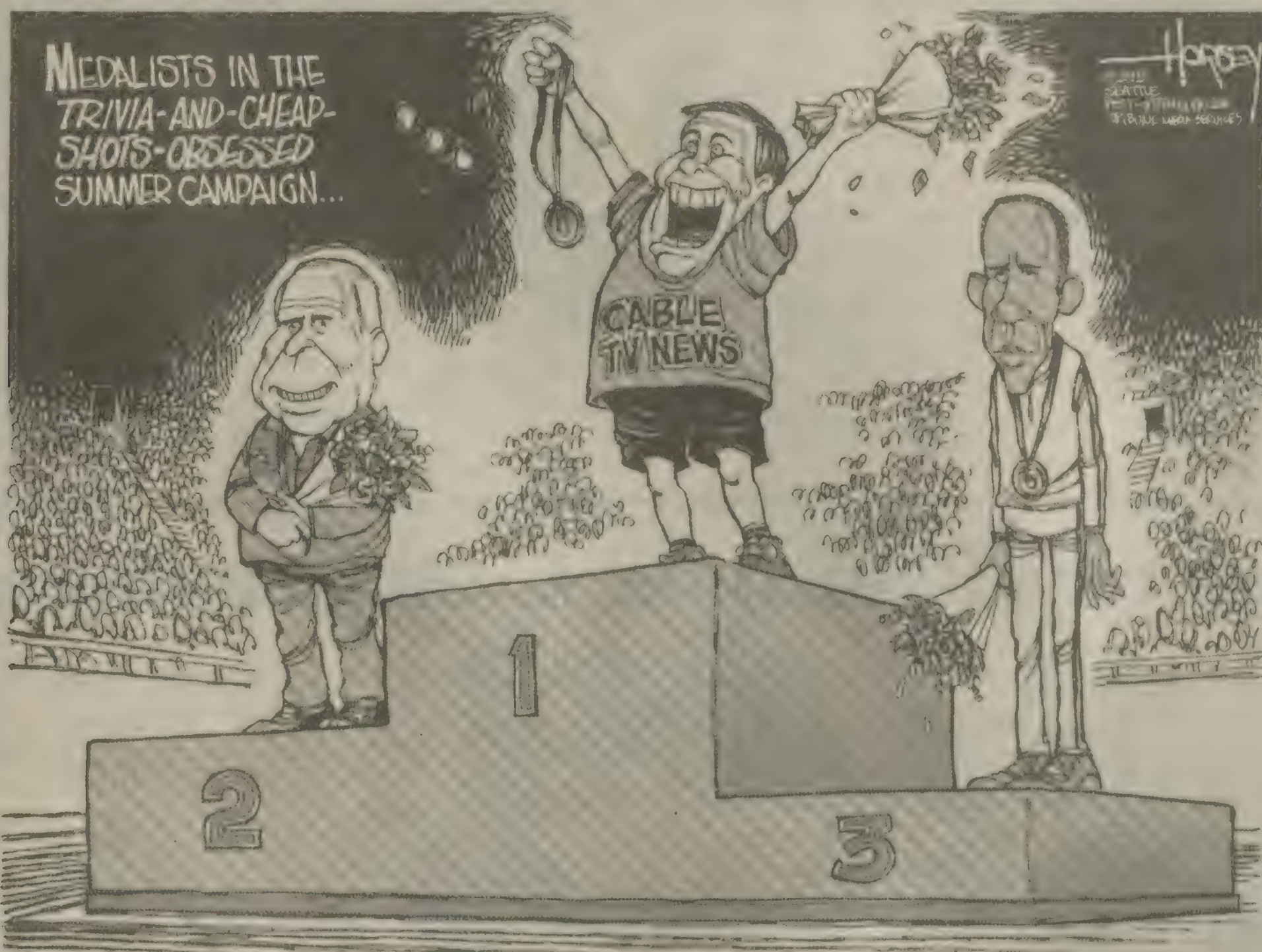
Sixth, if you do find yourself with that ticket, remember that Student Government appoints a Traffic Appeals Commission for a reason. If you honestly didn't do anything wrong (for instance, if you parked in a stall with a broken meter at the student center and, like me, found a ticket on your car an hour later), appeal the ticket. The worst thing that will happen is you'll still have to pay it.

Last, but not least, remember that you can plan ahead a little bit by checking out Campus Security's parking Web site, unomaha.edu/parking, which offers a Google map with the latest lot closing as well as a page with the most recent parking news.

Sinister Slant



Scott Stewart



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Sex without condoms a modern substitute for engagement ring?

This UWIRE editorial originally appeared in the University of Texas' Daily Texan on July 30. It was written by the editorial board of that publication.

Responsibly ditching condoms is a new trend among young couples. If that sounds like a horrifying oxymoron to you, read on.

According to testimony from Pendarvis Harshaw, an National Public Radio Youth Radio correspondent, when a couple decides to ditch condoms, get tested for STDs and make the transition to other forms of birth control like the pill, the patch or the shot, they're not only taking a symbolic step forward in terms of sexual health, but also a leap of faith in the scheme of their relationship.

As Harshaw states, sex without condoms is the modern substitute for an engagement ring.

In a three-minute spot on NPR, Harshaw defends this new "Engagement 2.0" as a realistic replacement for an overpriced ring that, given today's divorce rates, doesn't mean much.

Caring about your partner's sexual health, Harshaw believes, is the ultimate act of respect and intimacy, because "it shows trust, commitment and the prospect of a shared future." And eschewing latex is in no way a symbol of the urge to take on larger responsibilities or engage in risky behavior: "The majority [of young adults] want to steer clear of children and disease while enjoying the pleasures of healthy sex," he says.

Never has not using a condom seemed so healthy. We find Harshaw's honest and frank voice refreshing and reasonable, but many have been infuriated by his on-air essay, and his report has stirred a lively debate on NPR.com.

The comment section under his piece has been inundated with responses, many of which criticize Harshaw's ideas while expressing a desire to perpetuate more traditional sexual practices.

One poster anonymously wrote, "What a disgusting story. How about a radical idea – being a virgin until you get married and staying with that one person until you die."

NPR's main demographic may not be the 18-to-24-year-old set, but the generational gap that screams through the comments is indicative of the seemingly impossible reconciliation between the young and the old.

Most younger commenters qualified Harshaw's point of view, offering missives of support and solidarity. "People need to get over their hang-ups on young people talking about sex and on the idea that a lot of us have an unfavorable view of marriage," one wrote.

And another nearly dismissed Harshaw's account as old news: "My generation knows all too well the long walk down to the health clinic as a somewhat romantic feat, filled with a lot of the meaningfulness of a long walk down the aisle. In fact, my partner and I just made that journey last week. We considered it a great date."

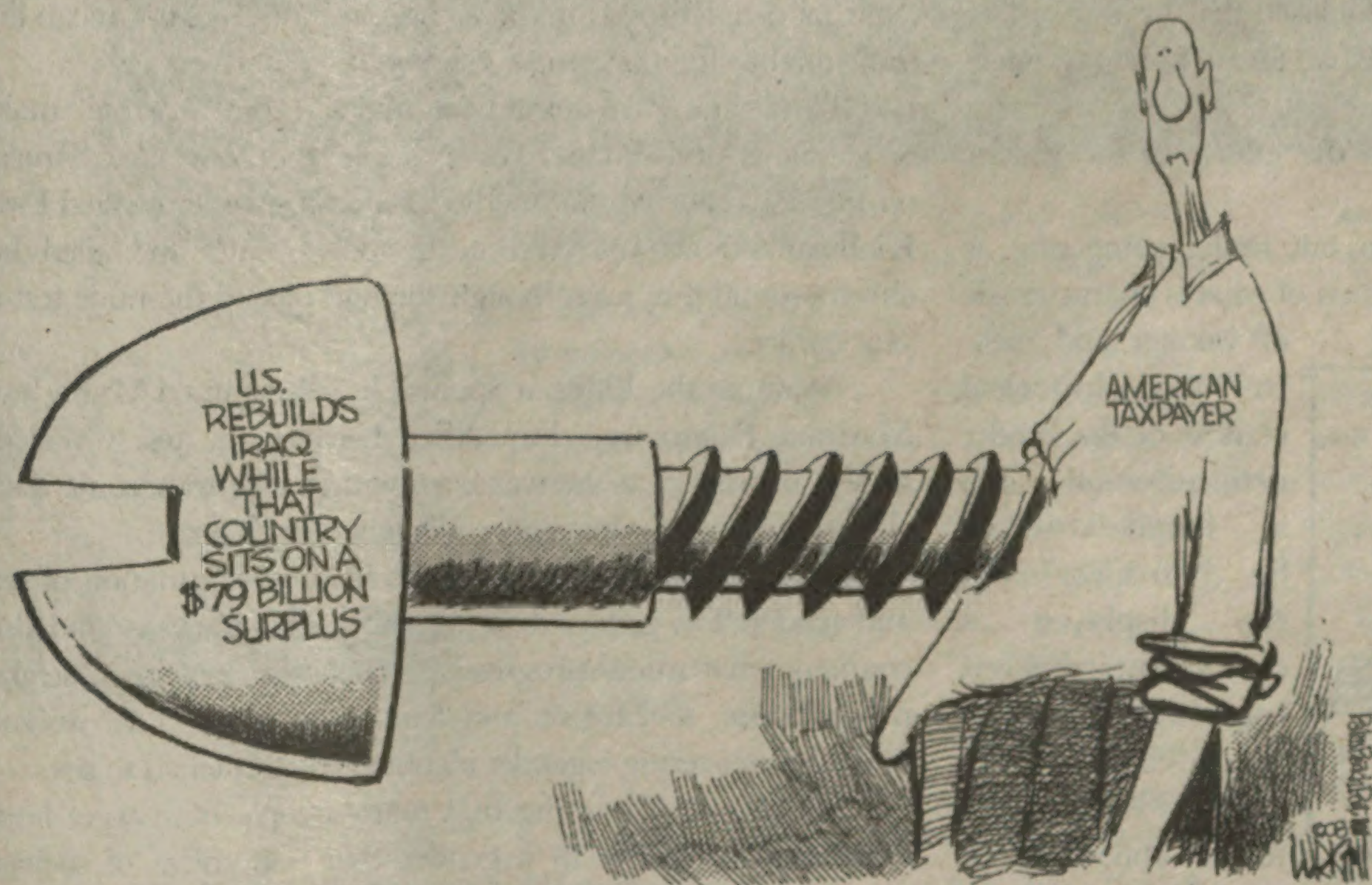
Whatever the outcome of the comment war, it's heartening to see our generation talk frankly and intelligently about sex, something we don't see too often in Texas. Our state still thinks of sex as taboo, and its archaic ideas of how the topic should be broached and taught hinders its youth, as University of Texas students themselves have proved.

According to data from the 2008 UT National College Health Assessment, most UT students don't even use condoms in the first place – and not because they're "engaged."

The survey reported that 27 percent of students who are sexually active reported that they "always" use condoms for vaginal sex. Another 15 percent said they used the withdrawal method as birth control the last time they had vaginal sex, and even though 67 percent reported that they had discussed safe sex practices, 44 percent of those respondents did not use a condom the last time they had vaginal sex. Only 30 percent of respondents had been tested for HIV.

In terms of their sexual health, UT students are playing with fire. But it's never too late – or too early – to become educated. UT offers extensive sex education services through University Health Services. The sooner you learn about and become comfortable with the topic of sex, the sooner you can make the choice to become engaged in whatever way you please.

Editor's Note: UNO also offers sexual education services, condoms and free STD tests through Student Health Services in the Milo Bail Student Center. The Women's Resource Center also offers free condoms to students.



From **PHILLIPS**: Page 19

to our environment, instead of working against it. We need to invest time, energy and money into developing sustainable technologies and putting them into practice.

Some changes are already being made which may help UNO lessen its carbon footprint. Historically a commuter college, the addition of Maverick Village has the potential to reduce congestion and pollution by allowing more students to live on campus.

More can still be done, however. The university's administration and regents could commit to meeting some of the objectives of the NWF.

Students interested in making UNO a greener campus could join the Environmental Club. UNO also offers both a major and minor in Environmental Studies. Even something as simple as discontinuing the use of Styrofoam in the food court can make a difference.

The National Wildlife Federation's Web site offers resources for improving campus ecology, including a guide to hiring a sustainability coordinator. By utilizing such resources, the University of Nebraska at Omaha can become a leader again in the environmental movement.

U.S. drinking age limit should be lowered

The following UWIRE staff editorial appeared in The Daily Athenaeum at West Virginia University on Aug. 20.

The national drinking age should drop back down to 18.

According to an AP article, presidents of 100 well-known colleges and universities are rallying together to ask lawmakers to reconsider the drinking age.

John McCardell is the brave president emeritus from Middlebury College in Vermont who started the Amethyst Initiative – the group that recruits these presidents to sign a statement for reconsideration of the drinking age.

The National Minimum Drinking Age Act that raised the drinking age from 18 to 21 came about because of a federal highway law threatening to cut states' highway dollars if the drinking age wasn't changed.

So for 24 years, a number of college students have been drinking illegally. And despite our university's wishes, it happens on this campus.

As Princeton Review's "No. 1 Party School" last year, West Virginia University's students of legal age certainly weren't the only ones who garnered that type of attention.

The oldest argument in the book still holds true today – if you can fight for your country at 18, why shouldn't you be able to have a drink?

"I believe that 18-year-old adults in our culture are capable of voting, signing contracts, marrying, paying taxes, serving

in the military and assuming other adult endeavors including the right to drink responsibly," wrote Donald R. Eastman III, Eckerd College president, on the Amethyst Initiative Web site.

But, not everyone is a fan of their initiative. Mothers Against Drunk Driving, or MADD, is speaking out against it.

They think the institution presidents' action will actually lead to more fatal car crashes. The AP article also states the group "accuses the presidents of misrepresenting science and looking for an easy way out of an inconvenient problem."

What is most important to realize about these presidents' decision is it's not done to encourage drinking at a younger age. It's promoting responsible drinking.

With the drinking age as high as it is, many disregard the fact that it's a privilege and a responsibility, and do it in a careless manner.

According to the AP article, 500,000 college students suffer injuries from drinking-related incidents each year. About 1,700 die in these accidents.

And, it was also found in a recent AP analysis that 157 people – aged 18 to 23 – "drank themselves to death" in a six-year period.

If the drinking age is lowered, soon-to-be college students need to be educated on the repercussions. With those three years, students could become more comfortable and develop a more responsible attitude towards alcohol.

Saying no to binge drinking

The following McClatchy-Tribune staff editorial appeared in the Miami Herald on Aug. 21.

The college presidents who want to lower the drinking age to 18 from 21 have got to be kidding themselves. More than 100 of them – some from prestigious schools such as Duke, Tufts, Dartmouth and Colgate – have signed a statement calling for "an informed and dispassionate debate" about the federal law that makes 21 the legal drinking age.

The presidents are supporting the agenda of the Amethyst Initiative, a recently started movement pushing for reconsideration of the National Minimum Drinking Age of 1984. Adherents believe the drinking age should be the same as the legal age for voting, signing a contract, owning a house or car, or joining the military.

The college presidents wonder if the restrictions against drinking aren't so coercive that they encourage drinking, especially the binge drinking that is prevalent on so many

campuses.

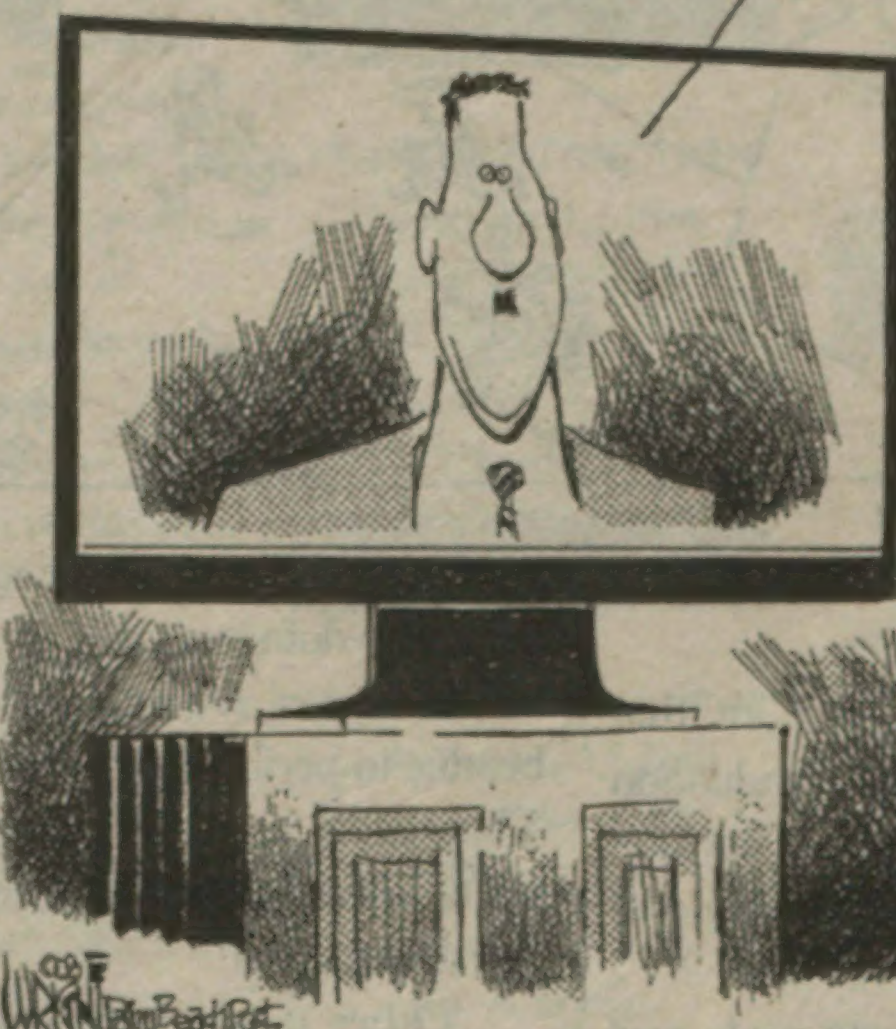
The short answer is: Absolutely not. The evidence is all over the place, in countless studies and in the experiences of young people before the drinking age was increased. Studies show that 18- to 21-year-olds drank more before the law was changed.

The presidents should read the recently published College Alcohol Study by the Harvard School of Public Health, which found that binge drinking reflects the culture and conditions created or tolerated by schools.

Researchers found that permissive campuses that promote intercollegiate athletics, fraternity and sorority life had more binge drinking. Campuses with policies that ban alcohol and offer substance-free housing options had far less binge drinking.

So Madames and Messrs. College Presidents, the ball is back in your court. If you want less drinking on campus, promote policies that will give you that result.

A NOTE TO OUR VIEWERS! OUR REPORTER HAS ADMITTED USING A SENTENCE WITH MORE THAN FIVE WORDS! ONE WORD EVEN HAD THREE SYLLABLES IN IT! FOX NEWS DEEPLY APOLOGIZES! IT WILL NOT HAPPEN AGAIN!



China proving why it didn't deserve Olympics

This UWIRE column originally appeared in UNL's *The Daily Nebraskan* on Aug. 11. It was written by Jeff Hall, a senior secondary education major. He can be reached at jeffhall@dailynebraskan.com.

This week's Olympics were to be a proud moment for China — a sort of coming out ceremony to mark its entrance to the world stage as a prosperous, developed nation. It was to showcase China's openness, expanding freedoms and amaze visitors with the pace of economic development.

And if you bought into the image coming from official Chinese sources, this is the nation you would see — proud and dynamic on the world stage. But peel back the thin veneer of state-sponsored media, and a darker picture appears.

China promised to lift Internet restrictions to reporters covering the games, and make the nation more open for journalists. They promised "complete freedom" to report.

Instead, China has reneged on those promises, reminding all who attend the games how tightly controlled the media is in this still-authoritarian state.

On Tuesday, July 28, reporters discovered that Internet access has to be censored in the main press center. Accessing articles on Tibet is now impossible.

Live broadcasts from Tiananmen Square, the site of the iconic 1989 protests, are heavily regulated. Unscheduled live feeds are nearly forbidden; several news organizations report harassment from police and bureaucracy when attempting to set up offices.

Then, on Aug. 4, came the most egregious of violations by the Chinese government.

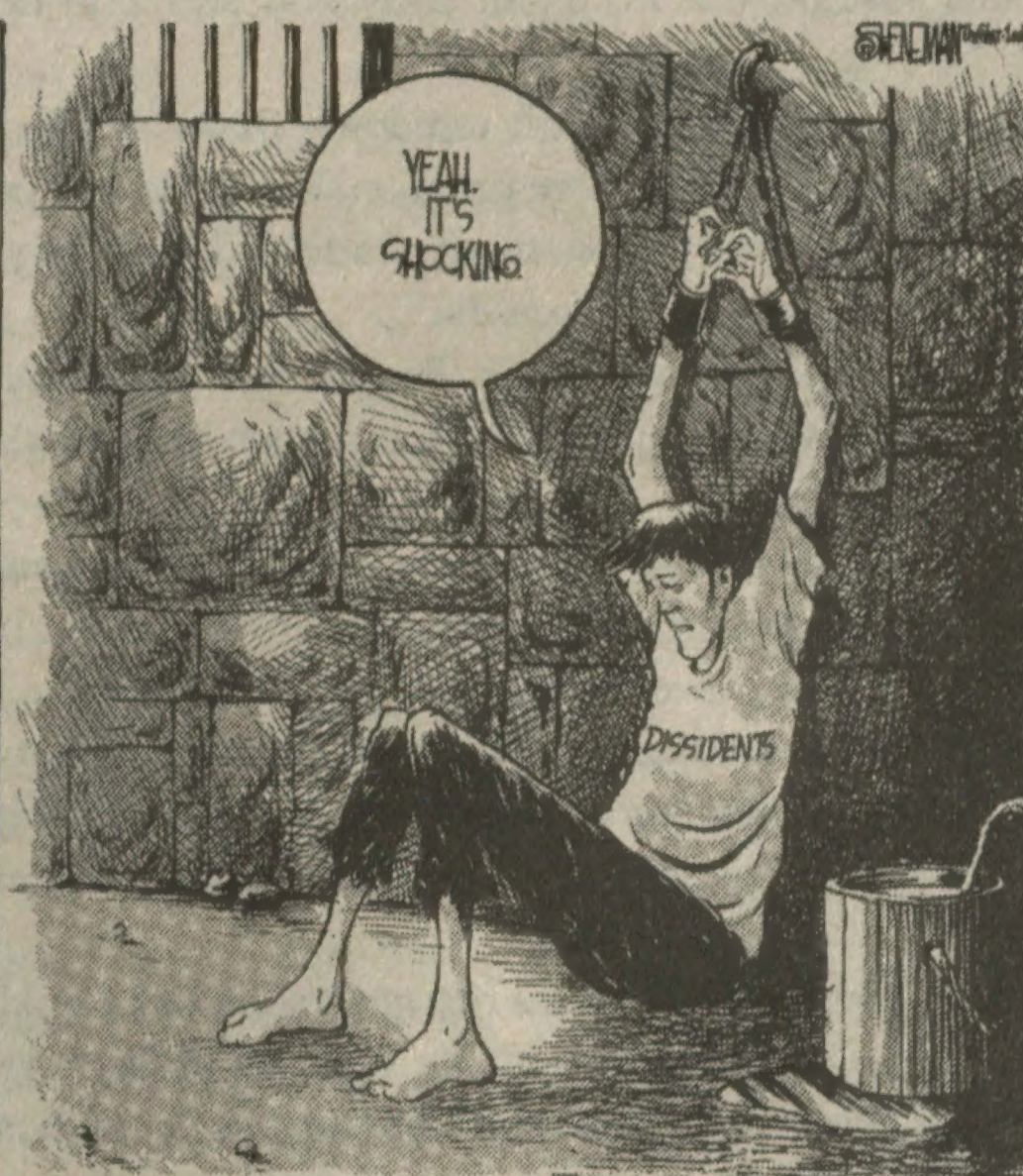
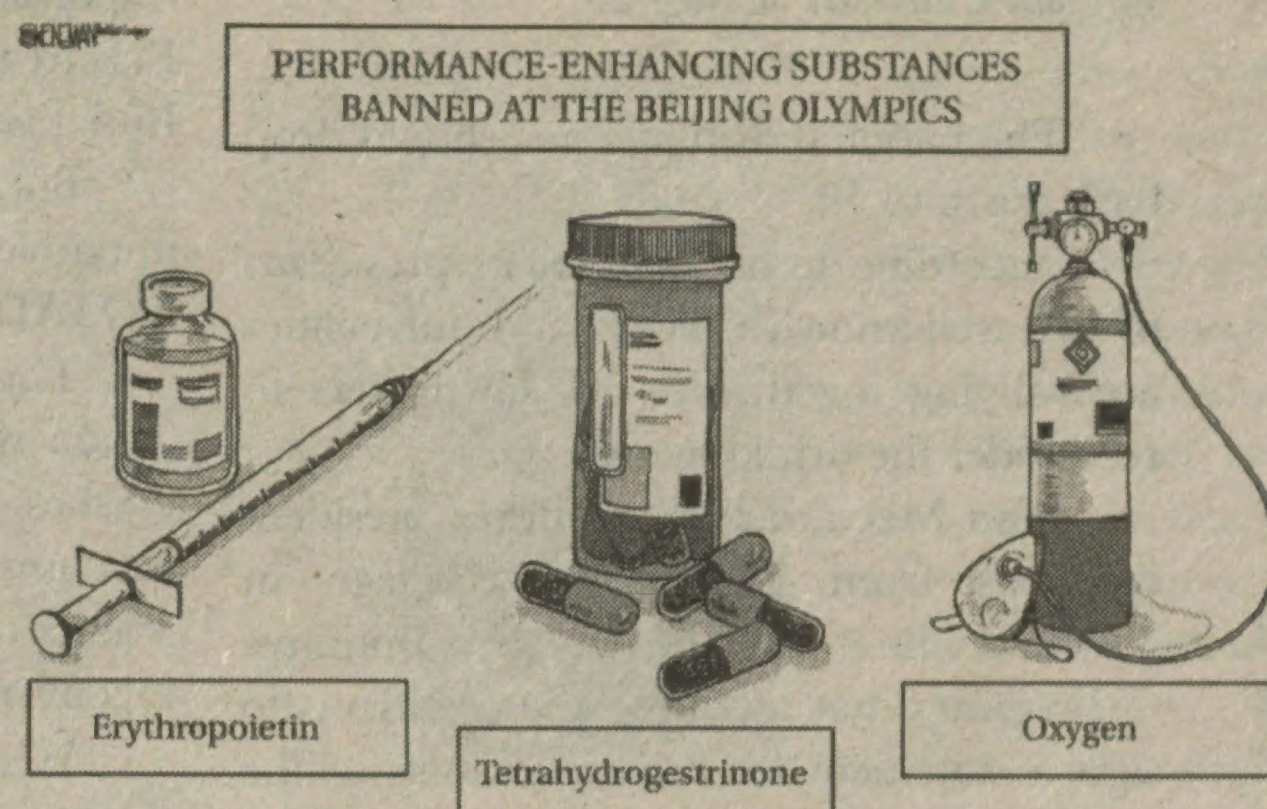
When two Japanese journalists attempted to cover an attack on a police station that killed 16 officers in the western Xinjiang province, they were kidnapped by Chinese paramilitary police and taken to a hotel. They were beaten, while some of their photography equipment was destroyed.

Somehow, unlawful detention and assault just doesn't mesh with the idea of "complete freedom" for journalists.

Who could have expected anything more from the Chinese

authorities? It is still the same government that jails homegrown protestors and shuts down dissenting newspapers. It is still the same government that harasses and detains thousands of Christians who do not belong to the state-sanctioned houses of worship.

It's not as if the international community had no warning about the crackdown that came. During the year in the lead-up to the games, thousands of dissidents and reformers were arrested. Residents of the country's rural western regions, who come to Beijing to petition the government, are now rounded up and deported back to their



home provinces.

Many of those arrested found their way into Orwellian "re-education" camps.

argument being that sports are separated by gender in order to provide a "leveled playing field." However, the sports are actually separated on the basis of longstanding assumptions and expectations of gender.

Only one athlete within recent modern Olympic history has been confirmed as competing under the "wrong" gender. According to *The New York Times*, "In 1936, a German athlete named Dora Ratjen finished fourth in the women's high jump. Twenty years later, Ratjen disclosed that he was in fact Hermann Ratjen, and that the Nazis had forced him to compete as a woman."

A result that was not due to the efforts of the gender determination lab.

The existence of this test, to out males competing as women, stems from an idealized notion of what is characteristic of women and men.

In the historical context of the gender determination lab, a female would be "suspect" if she displayed a characteristic that was considered masculine; in this case, excelling at sports was believed to be abnormal for women.

The result for performing at this high level of athletic achievement was to strip down naked in pure humiliation and be examined for

female genitalia, basically stating, "You can't really be a woman if you are doing so well."

However, no such test exists for "suspect" males that may be, due to performing below expectation, assumed to be female. That would be emasculating and ridiculous, right? But I don't see a difference and unfortunately, find the two scenarios to be one in the same.

Other particularly interesting and important points that appear to be brushed over in most media discussion on the

Torture is still widespread throughout the Chinese criminal justice system. Beatings, electric shocks and food deprivation are all still used to extract confessions.

Tibetans still face strict limits on religion and expression — the harsh crackdown on protests earlier this year shows just how far the Chinese government will go to keep Tibet firmly under their control.

Minority Uighurs in the previously mentioned Xinjiang province are harshly repressed; access to religious facilities as well as education remains limited.

As for the dramatic display of economic development that China had hoped for — well, it's looking far uglier than they would have hoped. Instead of showing gleaming factories and new infrastructure improvements, the Beijing Olympics are likely to give viewers and visitors a different look: pollution.

Thick, greasy smog cut visibility down to just half a mile in the capitol last week. While the Chinese have taken millions of cars off the road and closed down hundreds of factories in and around the city, the city's air quality remains one of the worst on the face of the Earth. Even construction, the hallmark of China's economic growth, has largely been shut down for the duration of the games.

But despite this, the smog is still there. One Olympic official even warned that some outdoor sports may have to be delayed if the pollution levels do not subside.

Some athletes are planning on using masks to filter out pollution during their events, while others have opted out of the games entirely, citing health concerns.

The International Olympic Committee, responsible for choosing Beijing to host the 2008 games, ought to be ashamed.

They went recklessly ahead with their decision, knowing full well both the political, social and environmental problems that continue to plague China.

But perhaps it is China itself that should be the most ashamed. Instead of coming out, the Chinese government has indicated that it will continue to do what it has always done — look inward, disregarding all criticism of the way the government conducts its affairs.

Do not be fooled by the propaganda. China did not deserve the Olympics, and now they are showing us why.

Sexism at the games?

This UWIRE column originally appeared in the *University of Nevada, Las Vegas' The Rebel Yell* on Aug. 11. It was written by Melinda Guillen.

We are officially in the beginning stages of the already controversial Olympic Games in Beijing, China that began on Aug. 8.

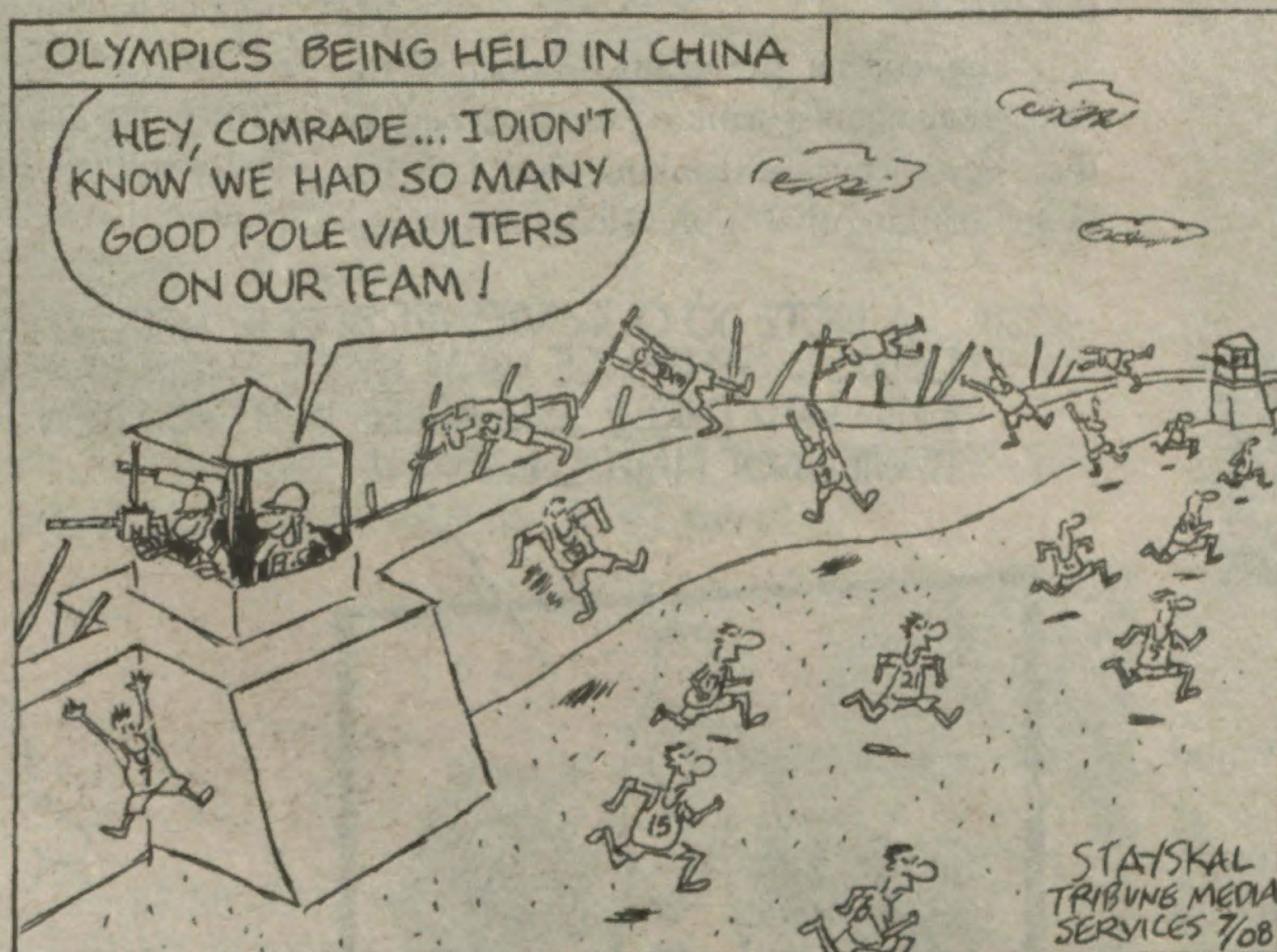
Two weeks before the games kicked off, the Olympics announced that they were providing a newly enhanced gender determination lab to determine the gender of "suspect" female athletes.

The lab is equipped with the newest technologies in sex identification, including chromosomal testing. The purpose of testing female athletes is to ensure that males are not competing in female competitions to elevate overall team performance and increase medal count.

It may come as a surprise that this gender determination lab is hardly new to the world's most coveted athletic competition. In fact, before 1968, "suspect" female athletes, or athletes that appeared more masculine in appearance than deemed acceptable for females, were subject to a screening that included stripping down naked in front of a board of gynecologists.

It wasn't until the 1968 games in Mexico City that gender determination labs switched from visual evaluation to chromosomal testing. The new tests will also include evaluations by endocrinologists, gynecologists, geneticists and psychologists.

The new technologies supposedly differentiate male and female chromosomes to provide accuracy in identification, the



determination lab is the equation of gender to sex as fixed, and the reinforcement of a dichotomous view of gender itself.

Vital information has come from attempting to evaluate gender and sex in this particular sexual dichotomy. Tests have shown that some female athletes contain genetic compositions that are atypical to the rigid sexual categorization of male and female.

Ultimately, this exposes the less known and rarely discussed fact that simply possessing a Y-chromosome does not mean an individual is singularly male, neither in sex nor gender.

Thus, setting a level of what adds up to a "normal" male or female is problematic. For example, the *New York Times*, on July 29, reported that in 1967, a Polish sprinter named Ewa Klobukowska was barred from the sport because she failed the chromosomal test, even though she had passed the nude test a year earlier.

Again, in the 1980s, a Spanish hurdler named Maria José Martínez Patino was disqualified because the test revealed, to her surprise, that she was born with a Y chromosome. Her eligibility was not reinstated until eight years later.

This raises a number of issues in the examination of sex and gender. The gender determination test is intrusive and also counters what many progressive geneticists, biologists, sexual psychologists, sociologists and feminist scholars have worked towards uncovering — gender identity is not attached to sex.

It's also worth noting that many people both were born and/or chose to live in a gender that is atypical of societal expectation and do not fit seamlessly into the box of male or female.

Gender is a social construction and what is classified as "masculine" or "feminine" varies considerably across cultures. Some widespread assumed characteristics of females — weakness, sensitivity, and irrationality (to name a few) are as socially constructed and regrettably upheld as assuming all women eat low fat yogurt, wear dresses daily, watch

Lifetime television and sadly, are not as proficient in sports as men. Any deviation from the aforementioned is considered abnormal and often times, intolerable.

All things considered, the implementation of the test, at every stage, is intrusive. It also reinforces a gender binary that is both socially constructed and privileges men's competitive sports over women's and has proven itself ineffective in its purpose.

At this rate, perhaps the Olympic Games of 2048 will do away with this costly and inconclusive test.

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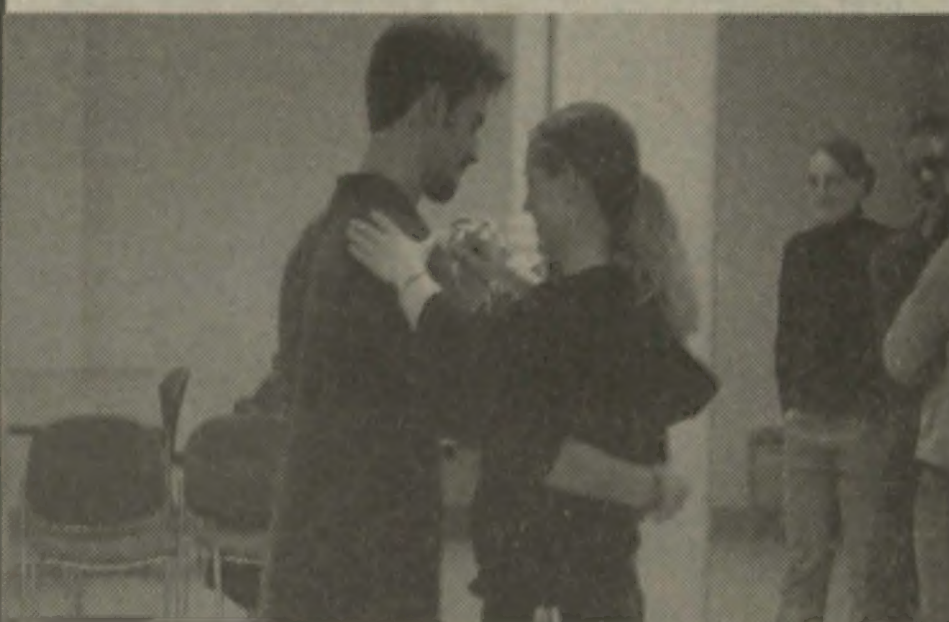
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HOUSING

APTS., HOUSES and sleeping rms. for rent, roommate lists - call UNO off-campus Housing Referral Service at 554-2383 or stop in the Admin. Office, Milo Bail Student Center.

2008 N 70 Ave offers 3 different living area quarters and is priced to sell at just 140,000. To find out more call Lisa Ritter, DEEB Realty 612-2413.

ROOMMATE WANTED

Roommate over age 21 wanted to share lge lovely 5 br home with 2 females, \$300/mo, \$100 deposit, private br, free internet & off street parking & free use of kitchen & laundry. Call 402-680-0237 after 4pm.

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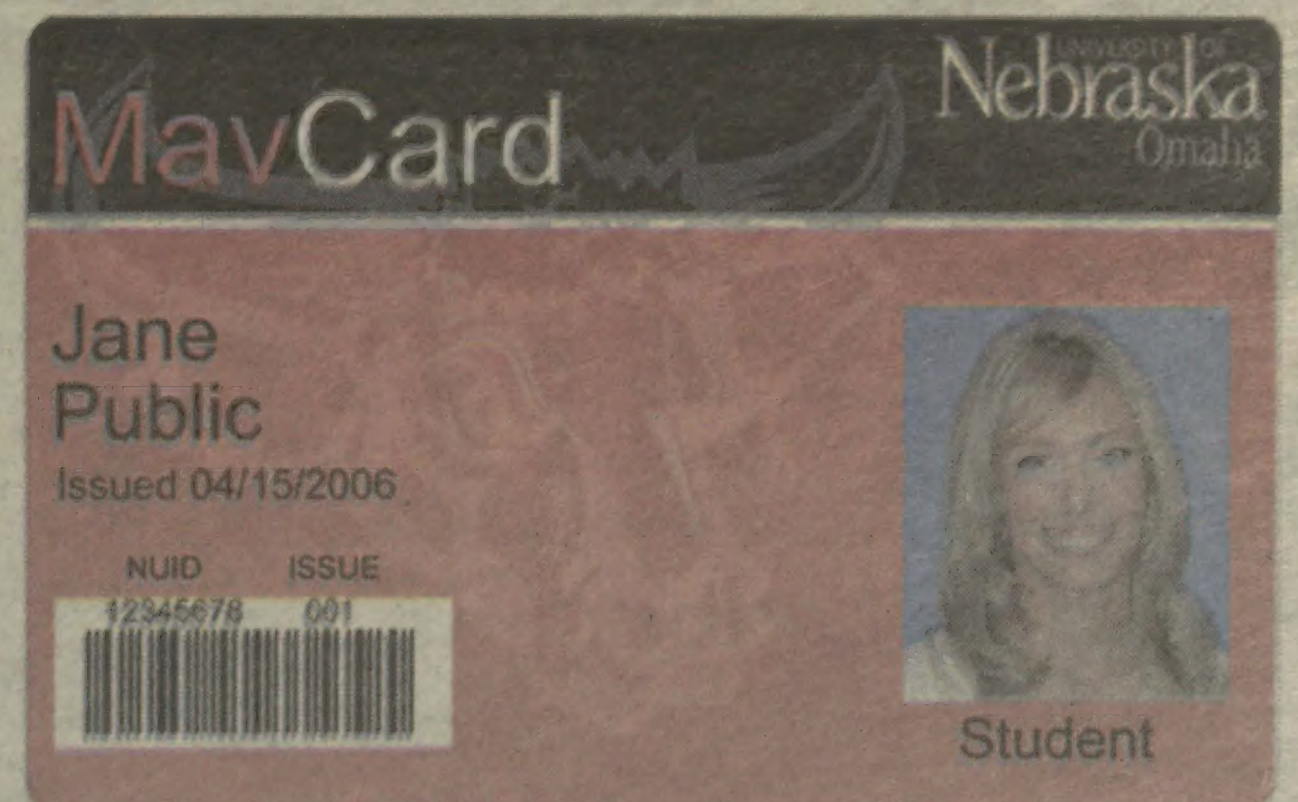
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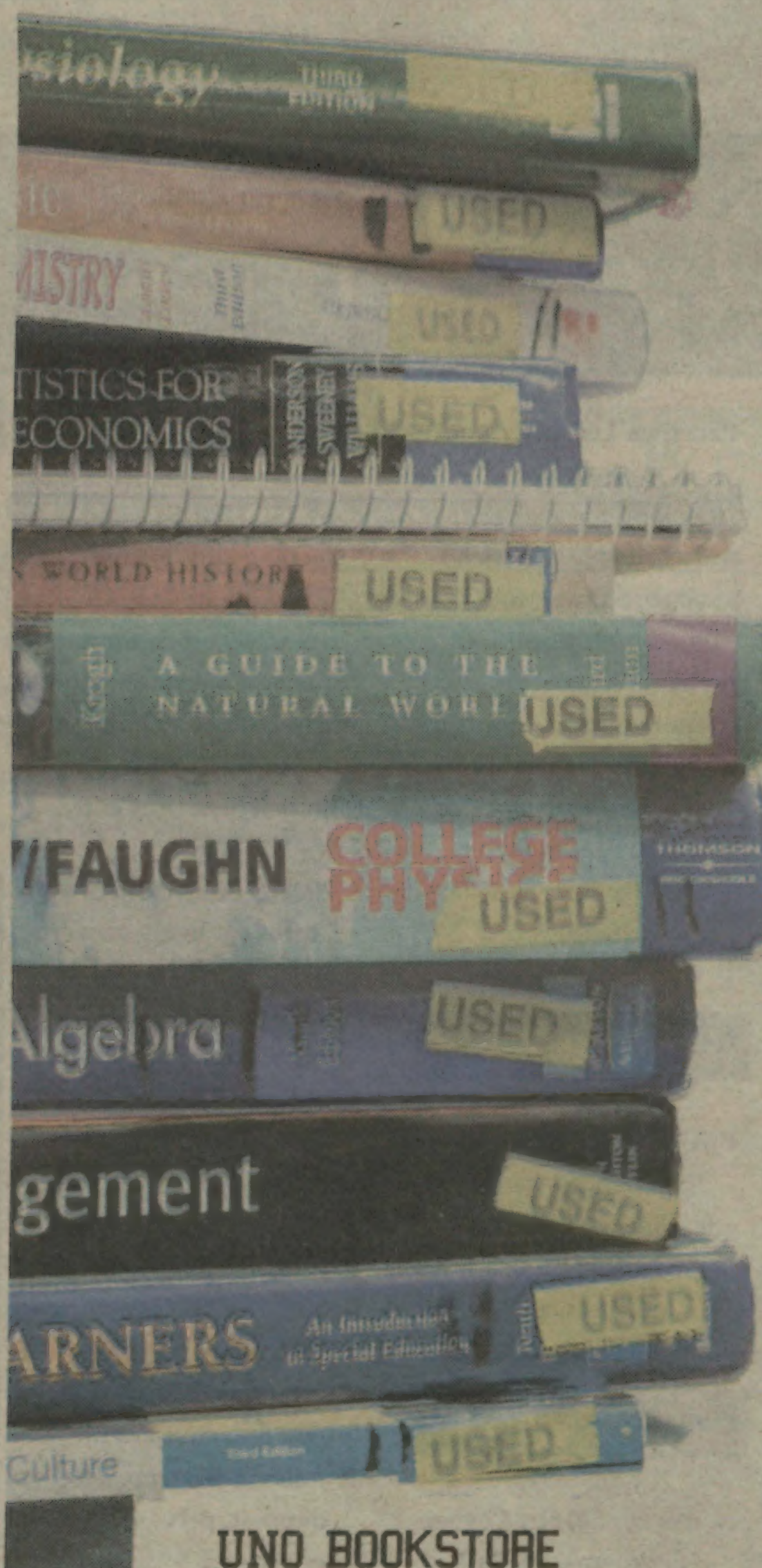
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